



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
14, TEMPLE STREET, BIRMINGHAM,

June 4th, 1910.

TO THE WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

1. I have the honour to present my eleventh Annual Report as County Medical Officer of Health, and the twenty-first I have made to your Council on the health of the Administrative County.
2. I propose to adopt the same system as in my last Reports, namely, to deal with the County as a whole, and then complete the Report by summarising those of the District Medical Officers of Health. In the statistics the birth, death, and Zymotic death-rates are calculated per 1,000 persons estimated to be living, while the infant mortality is reckoned on the number of children who died under one year of age per 1,000 registered births.

THE COUNTY AS A WHOLE.

AREA.

3. The area of the County in acres taken from the figures in the Reports of the District Medical Officers is as follows:—In the Urban Districts 54,777 and in the Rural Districts 496,312, giving a total for the County of 551,089.

POPULATION.

4. From the figures in the Reports of the District Medical Officers the population, estimated to the middle of 1909, appears to be 407,677, an increase of 6,856, almost identical with the estimated increase for the previous year. It is certain, however, that this estimate is not accurate, as this is the last year of the inter-censal period and in many districts it is extremely difficult to estimate accurately the population at so long a period from the last enumeration. The chief increase—as was to be expected—is shown in the mining and manufacturing districts. I must call attention to the fact that in the Borough of Aston Manor it has been customary to estimate the population on the basis of the Registrar General's method, namely, by imagining that the increase has progressed at the same rate as was found between the two last censuses. On referring to my Summary of the Report of the Medical Officer of the Borough it will be seen I give reasons practically proving such increase cannot now be taking place and therefore in order to maintain as great a degree of statistical accuracy as possible, I have estimated the population on known local conditions, rather than on an impossible arbitrary estimate. It would appear therefore as if compared with the last few years, the population of the Borough of Aston Manor has decreased, but of course this is not the case. It is simply that the Borough having practically all its available area covered, cannot show a further marked increase. Increases, however, have been noticed, particularly in Erdington, Nuneaton, and Sutton Coldfield among the Urban Districts, and in the Rural at Foleshill, Rugby, and Tamworth. It is estimated that there has been an actual decrease in Brailes, and Monks Kirby. Taking all the facts I estimate the population for the year to be 401,868, of which 244,041 are to be credited to the Urban Districts and 157,827 to the Rural Districts.

BIRTHS.

5. Nine thousand eight hundred and thirty-five births were registered, compared with 10,308 in the previous year, and 9,847 in 1907. Calculated on the estimated population, the birth-rate is found to be 24·4, 1·3 lower than that of the previous year, and indeed the lowest on record. In the Urban Districts the birth-rate was 23·7, a decrease of 0·9 on that of the previous year. In the Rural Districts it was 25·6, a figure 1·8 below that of 1903.
6. I have so often dealt with this question of decreasing birth-rate that I do not think I need trouble you with any further remarks at the present time, except to express regret that there is such a falling off in the potential human energy of the County.
7. Among the Urban Districts, the highest rate is shown in Bulkington and Nuneaton. These in fact, are the only two districts where the rate exceeds 30. In Erdington the rate was also satisfactory, being 27. The lowest rate is observed in the Borough of Leamington, where it fell to 15·8, but in Sutton Coldfield and Rugby it was under 18·0.
8. In the Rural Districts we get the highest rate registered in Foleshill, where it was nearly 37. In Atherstone, Nuneaton and Tamworth, it also exceeded 30, and in only three districts, namely Farnborough, Coventry and Monks Kirby, was it below 20.

DEATHS.

9. Five thousand two hundred and thirty-eight deaths were registered in the County during the year, namely, 3,086 in the Urban and 2,152 in the Rural Districts, giving a total death-rate of 13·03. This rate is slightly above that of the previous year but may be considered quite a satisfactory death-rate for a County area like Warwickshire.
10. Among the Urban Districts the lowest death-rate is shown at Sutton Coldfield, the figure being 9·61. Almost identical is Rugby, while Erdington and Nuneaton have the excellent rates of 10·4. The highest rate is shown at Bulkington, namely, 21, a figure that cannot be regarded as satisfactory.
11. In the Rural Districts the lowest rate is observed at Castle Bromwich where it was 9·5. In no other Rural District was it below 10·0, though Coventry, Farnborough and Tamworth did not exceed 12·0. The highest rate is shown at Brailes where it was 17, and at Foleshill 16·2. In Leicester and Stratford-on-Avon it reached 15.

ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

12. Three hundred and sixty-one deaths were registered from the seven principal Zymotic diseases, compared with 351 and 332 in the two preceeding years. This gives us a Zymotic death-rate of 0·89, a rate almost identical with the previous year. The deaths registered were as follows:—Smallpox 0, Measles 127, Scarlet Fever 24, Whooping Cough 80, Diphtheria 55, Typhoid Fever 15, and Diarrhœa 60. From a sanitary point of view, these figures are particularly satisfactory as they show that compared with the previous year, the only disease in which there has been any marked increase is Measles, which up to the present time sanitation can do so little to cope with. The number of deaths from Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria have both been less, while the number of deaths from Diarrhœa has been little more than half.
13. SMALLPOX.—Only one case of Smallpox was reported and it did not prove fatal. This occurred in Rugby Urban District. As is always the case, though it is not always possible to prove it, the patient imported the disease from abroad, having just returned from Cairo. It was a comparatively mild type of the disease, the patient having been vaccinated some weeks before. The patient was removed to the Joint Smallpox Hospital and the inmates of the house vaccinated and kept in quarantine till well over the incubation period. No spread of the disease took place.

14. MEASLES.—It was almost certain that there would be a considerable increase in mortality from this disease of children in 1909 as the low water-mark was reached in the previous year. In that year—1908—the total number of deaths registered was 31. In 1909 it was 127. [The mortality was almost entirely observed in the Urban Districts, for while 110 deaths occurred in these only 17 were registered in the Rural Districts.

15. Of the 110 deaths in the Urban Districts, 78 occurred in the Borough of Aston Manor, and 20 in the Borough of Nuneaton, and there is no doubt that in these two districts the disease was very wide-spread. In the Rural Districts, out of the 17 deaths 6 occurred in Castle Bromwich, but not more than two in any other district.

16. I have before explained how difficult it is to deal with Measles, simply because the disease becomes infectious and therefore has a tendency to spread, before it can be definitely diagnosed. During the latter part of the year I have arranged measures which I hope will enable both the County and the District Authorities to keep a much closer observation of known cases and on possibly infected children, and I hope, therefore, largely through measures that can be taken in connection with the elementary schools, to do something in the future, if not to decrease the number of cases, at least to limit the fatality.

17. SCARLET FEVER.—The number of deaths from this disease has been 24 and the number of cases notified 1,307. The number of cases is higher than in the two previous years, so it is very satisfactory to be able to record a less virulent type with a decrease in the number of deaths.

18. Of the 24 deaths, 17 occurred in the Urban, and only 7 in the Rural Districts, but it is a well marked fact that this ratio does not obtain in the number of cases notified, of which 806 were in the Urban and 501 in the Rural Districts. It will be seen therefore that fatality was proportionately less in the Rural than in the Urban Districts. The mortality on the recorded cases was thus rather more than 2·0 per cent. in the Urban and only 1·4 per cent. in the Rural Districts.

19. Of the 806 cases in the Urban Districts, more than half—425—were notified in the Borough of Aston Manor, and 187 in Erdington District. There can be no doubt whatever that this comparatively large incidence of the disease in these districts was due to the fact that they are immediately connected with the large population of the City of Birmingham, where the disease was also very prevalent in the autumn.

20. In the Rural District, the chief prevalence was in Foleshill, also closely associated with the large population of Coventry. It will be noted, too, that in Alcester, Solihull, and Tamworth the prevalence of the disease was marked.

21. DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.—I am pleased to be able to report that not only has there been a smaller number of deaths from these diseases, but the number of cases has been considerably less. The total number of cases recorded has been 451, namely, 289 in the Urban and 162 in the Rural Districts, producing only 55 deaths, compared with 71 in the previous year.

22. Of the 26 deaths in the Urban Districts, 16 occurred in Aston Manor and Erdington, and in the Rural Districts of the 29 deaths, 9 occurred in Solihull, and 8 in Foleshill, while in nine of these districts there was no fatality whatever.

23. Coming to the cases, the largest number notified was at Leamington, where 73 were reported, but the disease must have been very mild as only two deaths were recorded.

24. I dealt in my Report for last year with the question of scientifically dealing with this disease and pointed out that Bacteriology had now come to our aid to a marked degree, particularly in matter of diagnosis. I also pointed out that not only in prevention, but in treatment, much more could be done by means of anti-toxin, and I am pleased to be able to report that the District Medical Officers were good enough to meet me in conference towards the end of the year, and discuss measures that might be taken. As a result I have high hopes for the future that a more effectual control will be maintained over outbreaks than in the past, while the greater attention now devoted to School Hygiene will also markedly aid us in this respect. In connection with this, I may add that other District Councils in addition to those I mentioned in my last Report, have now taken measures to keep doses of Diphtheria anti-toxin ready for use by medical practitioners on application, and during the present year I hope to be able to make a further investigation into the measures being taken by each District Council to deal with this important disease.

25. WHOOPING COUGH.—The number of deaths from Whooping Cough was fewer than in the previous year, being 80 compared with 99. I have before pointed out that this is a disease affecting very young children, the bulk of mortality taking place under two years of age. It is therefore a very difficult disease to deal with, other than by means of Health Visitors advising mothers in affected houses how to best care for infants suffering from it.

26. Of the 80 deaths, 33 occurred in the Urban and 47 in the Rural Districts.

27. Of the deaths in the Urban Districts 12 occurred in Aston Manor, 7 in Leamington, and 5 in Nuneaton, while in the Rural Districts 13 occurred in Foleshill, 8 in Atherstone, and 7 in Tamworth.

28. FEVER, INCLUDING TYPHOID AND OTHER CONTINUED FEVERS.—I have before pointed out how these diseases may be considered the best index of the sanitary condition of an area, and the fact that we have year by year shown a decreasing death-rate from these diseases, proves the marked advance that Sanitation is making.

29. Altogether 15 deaths have been registered, practically the same as in the previous year. Of these, 9 occurred in the Urban and 6 in the Rural Districts.

30. Coming to cases, I find that only 98 were registered, namely, 77 in the Urban and 21 in the Rural Districts. Many of these cases should not really be debited to the County. Of the 23 notified in the district of Erdington, only 5 belonged to the district, most of the others being in patients removed to the Infirmary from Birmingham, or occurring, as 10 of them did, in the Branch Asylum, at Glenthorne.

31. In the Rural Districts, the only place where there can be called anything approaching a prevalence was Solihull, where 7 cases were notified. Of these, however, 5 were included from the Workhouse Infirmary and only 1 really belonged to the district, occurring as it did in the case of a nurse who assisted in attending the other cases, all of which were admitted from the Worcestershire District of Yardley. Our record, therefore, as regards Typhoid Fever must be considered a particularly satisfactory one.

32. DIARRHŒA.—It is very satisfactory to be able to record that only 60 deaths from this Zymotic disease of childhood were registered, compared with 110 and 82 in the two previous years. This is one of the smallest, if not the smallest, number ever returned in the County.

33. I have before on many occasions pointed out that though it is pre-disposed to generally by high temperature lasting over several weeks, yet that it is due to definite micro-organisms associated with foul conditions of soil or dwelling and affecting more especially populous or over-crowded communities.

34. Of the 60 deaths, 34 occurred in the Urban and 26 in the Rural Districts. In the Urban Districts 14 of the deaths occurred in the Borough of Aston Manor and 8 in Nuneaton, while in the Rural Districts 6 of the deaths occurred in Atherstone, 7 in Foleshill, and 6 in Southam.
35. The chief reason, of course, of the diminution of mortality was, as I have stated before, the cool weather of the year, added to the copious rain-fall of the summer months, which washed soil, air and in many instances, sewers. A factor also which must not be forgotten is the work of the Health Visitors in visiting newly-born infants and advising the mothers on the best way to feed them.
36. If breast feeding were universal, there would be but little Infantile Diarrhoea as undoubtedly one of the most important causes is the contamination of food, particularly milk during storage, in places unfit for the purpose. The teaching of mothers simple precaution, by which risks may be minimised, is of great importance, and is no doubt to some extent accountable for the improvement noted.
37. **PHTHISIS AND OTHER TUBERCULAR DISEASES.**—Although the population has increased slightly, the number of deaths from Phthisis and other tubercular diseases shows a slight decrease. The total number of deaths recorded being 428, as against 451 in 1908. In the Urban Districts the number of deaths from Phthisis was 209, and in the Rural 102. Both these figures compare favourably with similar ones for last year, if, however, we regard Phthisis as we should do, as an infectious preventible disease, it is a melancholy fact to have to state that the deaths from it, even in a favourable year, were practically as many as the whole of the seven principal Zymotic Diseases taken together, and I feel compelled again—even at the risk of reiteration—to call attention to what may be done to reduce the mortality.
38. At the outset I should like to congratulate those District Councils and their Officers who have undertaken the disinfection of premises after deaths of patients. The hands of the preventive authorities must be tied to a considerable extent, until compulsory notification of Phthisis has been established. Voluntary notification for reasons I have previously given, appears to be of little use and I hope that the time will not be far distant when enlightened public opinion will agree to notification as the first logical step in the prevention of so serious a disease. Education of the public is the most important step and I should like to see, if possible, some definite step undertaken to educate children and adults as to the means to be taken to prevent the disease. Something might be done no doubt, and has been done by the Health Visitors in the Schools, but owing to the inroads that Medical Inspection has made on their time, fewer “talks” on the subject have been given than in some previous years. At the time of writing, there is a strong probability that the Medical and Health Visiting Staff of the County will be considerably increased during the year and this will enable me to do something to meet what I believe is a great want. I do not, however, consider that any special teaching will do all that might be done, and I would commend to those most concerned, that means be taken so that elementary knowledge might be afforded by the teachers themselves as to the value of cleanliness, and of fresh air, in preventing the spread of the disease, and perhaps even more important as doing something to dispel the chilling fatalism of belief in hereditary transmission.
39. Though I am pleased to observe, as I have mentioned above, that more District Councils and their Officers do something in the way of disinfection after death, yet I would again commend the absolute necessity of disinfection of dwellings and bedding being taken as a routine procedure. The bug-bear of expense is so often trotted out when suggestions of proved value are made, that I feel some hesitation in making the suggestion to the smaller District Councils, and when it is considered that all District Councils ought to be provided with proper means of disinfection, both for the sake of dealing with Phthisis and other infectious diseases, the extra expense of dealing with one of the most serious diseases now troubling

mankind in these latitudes need not be considered. Personally, looking at the tragedies connected with it, occurring in our midst, it seems to me that no reasonable expense should be considered in connection with such a matter, and I do not believe that it would be allowed to weigh were the public who suffer aware of what might be done at so extremely small a cost.

40. In connection with this, I note that in the Report of the Medical Officer for the Atherstone District Council, 5 cases were reported as having been disinfected, though 19 deaths were registered.

41. The Tamworth District Medical Officer in his Report says: "The houses and cottages in which deaths from this malady have resulted were disinfected and the walls lime-washed, and renovated, and the premises thoroughly cleansed, the cost being as usual divided between the owner of the property and your Council." This proceeding, I think, is hardly advantageous. The disinfection is done, not for the owner of the property, but for the public interest, to prevent future tenants running the risk of acquiring the disease, and I believe that only best results can be obtained by disinfection being absolutely free.

42. As far as I can judge by personal observation, another common cause of the disease, namely spitting in rooms and close spaces, is certainly less prevalent than formerly and I think some good has been done in an educative way by the notices issued by the County Council and exhibited in public places, public houses and also in some factories and workshops. This work, I think, might be extended and I would suggest to the District Councils that they direct their Sanitary Inspectors to encourage and supply as far as possible, these County Council cards in such places as I have mentioned. I attach particular importance to them being well in evidence in the bars and smoke rooms of public houses. Experiment has proved that the floors of such places are very likely to be contaminated with the bacillus of tubercle and statistics have proved that those associated with public houses are specially liable to attacks of Phthisis. The police have given their aid in the past in Warwickshire in this respect, and I feel sure I can rely on them in the future not relaxing their efforts, but I am anxious that as many agencies as possible should be put in operation to deal with so important a matter.

43. The question of the milk supply, not merely as regards its freedom from adulteration, but as regards its freedom from the germs of tubercle, is one that during the year has received more attention. It is a well-known fact that a considerable percentage of all samples of milk are found to be tubercular. It is also definitely established that such milk is capable, under certain conditions, of producing tubercle in those who drink it, particularly in the young. The public conscience has been a good deal awakened of late by investigations made of the milk supply of Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow and other large towns, and there can be no doubt that the promised "Milk Bill" will be of great importance in minimizing the danger arising from tuberculous milk. In the meantime, however, I feel that something should be done to limit the risk, and the readiest method which can be adopted is to sterilize all milk by raising it practically to boiling point before it is used, particularly in the case of infants. If this were done, and the vessels in which milk had been heated, were protected from contamination in the houses, many lives now lost annually might be saved.

44. I cannot dismiss the question of the prevention of waste of life from consumption without again referring to the help to be rendered by Sanatoria to patients suffering. Good can be done to two classes of patients. First, in giving a strong hope of cure to those in the incipient stage; secondly, by education in the methods of prevention of risk of infection to others with whom patients come in contact. When one considers how closely associated in bedrooms in dwellings of the poorer classes affected persons, must be, it is obvious how much can be done if patients are shown the best methods of preventing risk of dissemination. This, to my mind, cannot be effectually done at the houses of the patients, and I think it is fairly well accepted that one of the best means for doing this is the reception of patients into Sanatoria for a period of a few weeks, where modern ideas of prevention are inculcated.

45. In my Report for last year, I drew attention to the fact that owing to the epidemic nature of the disease, Smallpox Hospitals were not used for considerable portions of the time, though it was necessary they should be ready to receive patients in the early days of an outbreak. I pointed out that some districts were using these Institutions in inter-epidemic times as Sanatoria for the reception of patients for limited periods, and suggested that these Hospitals should receive a certain number of patients, and teach them how to make the best of their opportunities. I regret to say that this point has been considered by some of the Conneils, and in one instance certainly, namely that of Nuneaton Joint District, it was decided that nothing should be done.
46. DR. THOMSON in his Report to the Stratford-on-Avon Council, says:—"At the Joint Infectious Hospital maintained by your authority in conjunction with other authorities there is a small Ward Block which is rarely in use and well isolated from the buildings used to isolate cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria. It would be possible at any time to cut this off from all connection with the Hospital by a separate entrance being made to it and a fence being put around it. The only alteration required would be to put a small cooking range in the Duty-room, and then the building would suit admirably as a temporary house for a case of incipient Pulmonary Tuberculosis. A man and his wife and small family could be sent there and trained in methods to prevent the infection of others. To do this would not necessarily involve much expense, especially if it were not the bread-winner of the family who was the patient, as in the latter case the family would simply live rent free. The expense involved would come in any instance under Section 131 of the P.H. Act, 1875, and I personally would look after the patient's welfare, as superintendent of the Hospital."
47. It is possible that the matter might be assisted if a Conference of representatives of the District Councils was held, with a view to a definite line of action being taken and though I do not want to appear too sanguine, I cannot help feeling that I should not be doing all that might be expected unless I made this suggestion.
48. Some little attention has no doubt been given to this matter by the issue during the year of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, and of the Memorandum by the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board. It is now compulsory on Poor Law Medical Officers to notify to the District Medical Officer of Health any case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis among the poor they attend in their practice as Medical Officers under the Poor Law. It does not appear, however, as though many notifications have been received in the County generally. I may add as a point of interest, that since the beginning of this year the Corporation of the City of Birmingham have decided to utilize some of their Smallpox Hospital accommodation for the purpose of dealing educationally with consumption.
49. CANCER.—Under this head, and including other forms of malignant disease, I note that there has been some slight increase, the number of deaths registered being 366, compared with 321 in the previous year. The death-rate has increased from 0·80 to 0·91. It is, of course, well known that Cancer is a disease of advanced life, and those districts where there is a collection of aged persons show a larger mortality from this scourge than in districts where the population is at less advanced ages.
50. INFLUENZA.—Rather fewer deaths were registered from Influenza than in the preceding year, the number being 57, compared with 62. This, I think, may be considered the normal figure for the County.
51. DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS.—Pneumonia was rather more fatal, the number of deaths being 409, compared with 344 in the previous year, but in the case of Bronchitis the mortality was less, the deaths being only 383, compared with 510.

INFANT MORTALITY.

52. In 1909, 957 deaths were registered in infants under one year of age, giving a rate of infant mortality of 97 per 1,000 births, compared with rates of 100 and 99 in the two previous years, and is the lowest rate of infant mortality yet recorded in the County.
53. In the Urban Districts, 566 deaths were registered and in the Rural 391, in both instances fewer than in 1908. The rates for both Urban and Rural Districts are practically identical.
54. Coming to individual districts, I find that the highest rate in the Urban Districts was shown in Bulkington, where it reached 173. In Aston Manor it was 120, and these are the only two Urban Districts where the rate can be considered excessive. The lowest rates were shown at Rugby where it was 57 and in the Borough of Warwick where it was 59.
55. In the Rural Districts the highest rate was shown at Nuneaton, where it reached the figure of 185. In Castle Bromwich it was 145, and in Foleshill 127. In Coventry the rate was *nil*, but as the total number of births registered was 10 this cannot be regarded of much import. In Meriden and Stratford-on-Avon the figures were 52, both of these being very low rates, while in Farnborough, Brailes, Monks Kirby, Solihull, and Warwick, the rates were very satisfactory.
56. Owing to the excessive rate in Nuneaton Rural District I made inquiries and found that the excessive mortality was chiefly in Arley. I directed MISS CHORLTON to investigate the circumstances and report to me on the matter. She says:—"That 8 out of 12 infants who died appear to have had very little chance of living." Three were premature (including twins); One had a congenitally diseased heart; One was non-viable; One suffered from lung collapse and had a parental history of Phthisis and a maternal history of Chronic Bronchitis; One had Bronchitis from birth; Twins suffered from Marasmus and lived fifteen days, the mother being 42 years of age and a heavy drinker. MISS CHORLTON refers to the housing and sanitary conditions discovered at Gun Hill, where two deaths occurred, complaints being made about the smell from the privy middens. These she found to be large and from the practice of emptying the household slops into them, the contents were a mass of liquid filth which had in some cases soaked through the walls. They are emptied twice a year. The houses themselves are comparatively new. The conditions at Hill Top and St. Wilfred's Cottages she describes as being very much the same, except that the privy middens are smaller and are emptied oftener. The conditions at Sunny Sidings, where two deaths occurred, MISS CHORLTON reports as deplorable. She says the houses were originally built as temporary dwellings, but are still occupied. They are built of wood on brick foundations and are reported to be damp. The privy middens are at the back, slightly above the level of the houses and were at the time of her visit in bad condition, some of them leaking. Referring to the feeding of the infants, she reports that three were breast-fed, and three artificially fed. In the other cases it was impossible to obtain reliable information. I at once laid these facts before the Medical Officer of Health for the District.
57. The reduction which I have been continuously able to record in infant mortality is very satisfactory and although undoubtedly many causes are at work to bring this about, still I attach the greatest importance to the ministrations of the Health Visitors. During the year no less than 1,321 visits were paid to infants in the County, as compared with 836 in the previous year. Details of Observations made will be found in Table "J" of the Appendix. Unhappily, the Staff at my disposal does not permit of all cases where it is desirable being visited soon after birth, but the information obtained leads me to pronounce definitely on the great value of the work.

58. I have received Reports from all the Health Visitors—including Mrs. MOORE, who retired owing to ill-health, in September—of the work done, and they show that ignorance is the basis of most of the ill-treatment which leads to infant mortality. Civilization appears to have largely abrogated what has been termed the maternal instinct, if it ever existed, and it is no exaggeration to say that a large proportion of the mothers are ignorant of the elementary physiological facts on which the health of the infant depends. As an instance of neglect I may quote from Miss LOWE's Report a case in the village of Minworth. She says:—"One bad case was visited in this district. The baby was quite healthy when born, but it was so neglected and the mother so drunken, that it died when a few weeks old. The case was given to the N.S.P.C.C. Since then there has been great improvement in the other children and the woman herself."

59. Full particulars of work done in the form of a Report have been sent in by Miss CHORLTON, who has worked the whole year in the Nuneaton District. The following are extracts from her Report:—

"The work of visiting infants in this district during 1909 was chiefly confined to first visits, and by far the greatest number of after visits were paid to those infants, in most cases 'wasting babies,' whose condition wanted constant watching and attention. I am glad to say that most of the wasting babies visited during 1909 improved with proper feeding and care, the County Council leaflet being a great help in some cases. I can only think of three wasting babies that are at the present time not making the progress that they should.

"On re-visiting I have found that instructions as to feeding are generally carried out, while those as to cots are not so often done. As I have, to a large extent, both in Nuneaton and in the Foleshill District only visited those infants living in courts or yards, and therefore in old buildings, where the bedrooms are very small, I have wondered whether the disinclination to put babies to sleep in cots, is often the result of want of accommodation or not.

"I have not come across many mothers in any of the districts visited who have been employed in factories or workshops either before or after confinement. I find that most of the married women do not go back to work unless forced to by necessity.

"It will be noticed from the accompanying tabular sheet that in the vast majority of cases, midwives have attended at the births. That being the case, it is more than ever important that the Midwife should understand and practice aseptic midwifery, and also that she should be able to give proper instructions as to feeding, natural and artificial, and be an instructress in hygiene generally. I have found that this part of a midwife's knowledge is often wanting.

"I have often used the intervals during a school inspection to talk to the waiting mothers about their infants, which they often bring with them. It is to be regretted that the opportunity that ought to be taken to visit infants has had to be used to visit school children.

"I am sure that the use of comforters is not so great as it used to be, and I think that boat bottles would be oftener used if their price was the same as a long-tubed bottle.

"The clothing is generally good. Infants are oftener over-clothed than under-clothed, and there is still a great deal of prejudice against putting infants outside to sleep. In one case of a wasting baby, I am convinced that fresh air helped to bring back health as much as corrected feeding.

“With regard to the housing conditions, I have been struck over and over again by the fact that there are a great number of windows that are not made to open, especially downstairs windows; this must have a bad effect on infants that occupy such rooms. I am glad to say in this respect the houses in a yard in the Foleshill District and those in a court in Nuneaton have all had their downstairs windows made to open. The close proximity of privy middens to some houses, in which there are infants, has always been reported to Sanitary Inspectors. In one or two cases the condition has resulted in Diarrhœa to the infants that have come under my notice, and these have terminated fatally. In both Nuneaton and Foleshill, the Water-Carriage system is being generally adopted.”

60. It will thus be seen that the main points the Health Visitors are constantly striving against, are want of cleanliness, artificial feeding, the use of the “comforter,” and drugs in the form of soothing syrups and teething powders, and the non use of cots. I have been somewhat surprised at the difficulty there is in certain districts to obtain tubeless feeding bottles, and as it is impossible for the ordinary mother to keep the long tube bottles sweet and clean, this is undoubtedly a great disadvantage. I have found instances where chemists appear to be more willing to sell tube than tubeless bottles, though why this should be I am at a loss to understand.

61. I must again express regret that so few of the District Councils have adopted the Act for Notification of Births. I attach great importance to this from many points of view, particularly that visiting of infants can be undertaken much earlier than the usual date of registration of births allows. With a probable increase of Health Visitors in the County I think it is a question whether your Committee should not take into consideration the desirability of exercising your powers of adopting the Act for the whole area of the County. At present it has been adopted only in the Boroughs of Aston Manor and Leamington.

A SUMMARY OF MATTERS INFLUENCING THE PUBLIC HEALTH, TO WHICH ATTENTION IS DRAWN IN THE REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

62. Owing to the courtesy of the Medical Officers of Health in the County Districts, and also in the County Boroughs of Birmingham and Coventry, I have been enabled to circulate on the Tuesday of each week, a list of all cases of notifiable disease reported in the previous week, while in addition, the County Medical Officers in all the Midland Counties circulate among themselves similar Reports, thus giving a record of the occurrence of the notifiable infectious diseases over a large area in the centre of England.

ISOLATION AND HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

63. I have been able to report for some years past that the condition of the County as regards Isolation Hospitals is fairly satisfactory and further work to complete the missing links has been done during the year. I may say that every District in the County, with the exception of the little District of Farnborough, has accommodation for Smallpox patients, and the only Districts not provided with Fever accommodations, are Rugby Urban and Rural Districts, Monks Kirby and Farnborough. Farnborough is a little Rural District on the Oxford side of the County and I do not see that anything can be done in the County sense here, nor do I think it necessary.

64. Last year I was able to report that the Solihull and Meriden District Councils had secured a site during the year under review for the erection of the proposed Hospital and at the close of the year it is well advanced. This Hospital will give excellent and modern accommodation to the two important Districts and will allow the present hospital now jointly used by Solihull, and Yardley in Worcestershire, to revert to the latter authority.

65. Practically in every instance the District Medical Officer refers to the value of the work done by the Hospitals, and from the common sense point of view it is obvious that to have an institution where infectious cases can be received must of necessity be of the greatest value. The more important the community the greater the value, as the greater risk there must be of the spread of infection, and particularly so in certain instances, where cases occur at Milk-shops or other places from which infection is easily carried.

66. This being so, it is a matter of very deep regret that my efforts up to the present have been unavailing in persuading the Rugby Joint Hospital Board to complete the work which they have commenced for providing Fever accommodation for the area comprised within the Board's jurisdiction. The site has been secured and I am credibly informed that the purchase of this site necessitated a Rate on the Districts exceeding a halfpenny in the £. Plans have been prepared and submitted to me and though not as comprehensive as I could have wished, I have approved, and the Board, after conference with me, have decided that it would be advisable to erect the Hospital. The matter, however, was referred to the constituent Councils and these, I hear, decided not to sanction the erection, so that this important eastern portion of the County is still without the means of Fever Hospital Isolation. The Joint Board was formed under the Public Health Act by Provisional Order, and the question arises whether or not the necessary steps should not be taken by the County Council to have this Order determined, and to make a District under the Isolation Hospital Acts. Not only are the interests of the Districts themselves concerned, but the whole area of the County is more or less affected by the absence of accommodation. I am strongly of opinion that there should be no further delay in this matter, but that all necessary means should be brought to bear to remove a condition hostile to both local and County interests.

67. In connection with this matter I may quote a paragraph from the Report of the Medical Officer of the Warwickshire Combined District, which is as follows:—"Pressure is being brought to bear by the County Council to induce the Rugby Joint Hospital Board to provide a hospital for infectious diseases, and at the present moment the subject is receiving much discussion by the various Councils concerned. Although the Joint District has been of late years remarkably fortunate in the low incidence of infectious disease, the continuance of this state of affairs is by no means certain. The experience of the rest of the Mid-Warwickshire Combination is that, for a certain proportion of the cases notified, hospital accommodation is of the greatest value, and the conditions in the Rugby Joint District do not differ so largely from those in the rest of the County as to suggest that an Isolation Hospital will not prove, as elsewhere, a great advantage to the constituent districts."

68. I have before called attention to the condition of the Fever Hospital at Atherstone and I would particularly call your attention to the remarks of the District Medical Officer of Health on this institution. He says:—"The present Infectious Hospital, with the exception of the small ward, is in a very bad state and needs a good deal of repair, and as I pointed out in my last Report, the new line of the London and North Western Railway being now much nearer the Hospital, it is becoming positively dangerous to occupy the premises; only the other day the nurse discovered a cinder on one of the beds which might easily have caused a fire.

"I recommend that a minimax fire extinguisher be at once placed there.

"I certainly must call the attention of the District Council to the long delay in erecting the new Infectious Hospital. I see that in my Annual Report for 1903 I say 'A site has been purchased for a new Infectious Hospital in Folly Lane.' This site was afterwards exchanged for one in Whittington in March 1906, and I cannot understand why more progress has not been made in erecting it.

“There is also in connection with this the question of a Steam Disinfector. At the present time I am sending all bedding, etc., after infectious cases, to Nuneaton to be disinfected. This, if we get any serious epidemic, will entail large expense. I am informed that in lieu of a steam disinfector there is some plan suggested of a kind of lethal chamber charged with disinfectants. This, I am sure, is not practicable and is a plan which will not receive the consent of the Local Government Board. Formaline and SO_2 have no power of penetration for disinfecting bedding, mattresses, etc., and they must be disinfected by moist heat such as steam.”

I have no hesitation from my knowledge of the institution in stating that his remarks are amply justified. The present building is certainly not one of which any District Council could feel proud or even satisfied, and as the question of a Disinfector for the whole District is associated with the new building, I again urge the importance of this matter being dealt with promptly and firmly.

69. I would also mention a matter which I think is worthy of attention of District Councils, and is referred to by Dr. THOMSON, the Medical Officer of Health for Stratford-on-Avon, namely, the inter-changing of nursing staffs when there is pressure in one District and but little disease in another. In this way efficiency is maintained by not discharging nurses, and at the same time economy in the cost. It also seems to me that much good might result by arrangements between different Committees by means of which under certain conditions accommodation could be afforded mutually in time of epidemic pressure.

70. Looking at the advancement of sanitation, the increased powers of Councils and the advantages to be gained by mutual co-operation, I cannot help feeling that at least an Annual Conference on this and other matters between the representatives of the County Council and the various district Councils and their Officers would be an advantage and might well be considered. No doubt the initiation of such a step would have to be taken by the County Council, and I commend this suggestion to your Committee.

RIVER POLLUTION.

71. Much good work has been done throughout the County generally during the year under review, in further extending and improving the means—for dealing with sewage and thus preventing the pollution of Rivers. In nearly every District is there a sewage works for the main populous areas to be found, but in many of them more than one sewage works is in existence for dealing with what would be small, though serious, local pollutions. There are three main Rivers in the County, namely, the Tame, the Anker, and the Avon, while the Cole, and the Blyth also require some attention.

72. As regards the River Tame, I should be inclined to think that it is remarkable for the fact that it receives more sewage effluent than any stream of anything approaching the same size in the country. Into this River flows the effluent from the largest sewage works in England, that of the Tame and Rea District Drainage Board. This Board not only deals with the sewage and manufacturing waste from the City of Birmingham, but from Aston Manor, Sutton Coldfield, Erdington and Castle Bromwich in the County of Warwick, Kings Norton in the County of Worcester, and Handsworth, Perry Barr and Smethwick in Staffordshire. Beginning from about 1860, the Birmingham sewage was treated at these works, or what then existed of them, on land. Afterwards chemical precipitation and land treatment were tried, the area of land being constantly increased, when owing—about the year 1900—to the constantly increasing population, the whole works were re-constituted and have been gradually built up on bacterial lines. At the present time there is an extraordinarily large area of bacteria beds, through which all the sewage is filtered. Each of these beds is 6-ft. deep. In addition to the septic tank treatment which the sewage receives it is after filtration dealt with in deep subsidence tanks to further remove the humus which the effluent contains after filtration.

73. The following particulars have been forwarded to me by MR. J. D. WATSON, the Engineer to the Board, of the new works at Saltley:—Total tank capacity 20,632,000 gallons; 51 acres of bacteria beds and 22 tanks for elimination of humus. In addition, during the year, a storm water basin with a capacity of 13,000,000 gallons was completed—in accordance with suggestions of the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal—for dealing with storm water. In addition to that a large area of land is available for the disposal of sludge, and to take storm water from the Cole Valley, Erdington and Sutton Coldfield sewers.

74. At the latter end of the year the Court of Appeal, on the advice of Sir William Ramsey, to whom the matter was referred, removed the injunction previously obtained by Tamworth, and I would call attention to the fact that the Board informed the Court of Appeal that they had under construction about 18 acres of storm waters filters, of which three have since been constructed and the others are to be completed in the near future. In addition to these MR. WATSON informs me that he has obtained sanction to construct additional works, estimated to cost £15,000, and the Works' Committee have during the present year agreed to a proposition that bacteria beds should be constructed at Minworth year by year to keep pace with the increasing population of the District. MR. WATSON estimates this will mean an increase of one acre per annum, having a depth of 6-ft. of medium. It would thus appear that the Board are alive to the importance of the work entrusted to them and that the automatic or routine expenditure has been determined upon in order to meet requirements as they arise.

75. The only other community in Warwickshire which in the past has been responsible for further pollution of the Tame, has been the Tamworth Rural District Council, and as I reported last year, this body in conjunction with the Borough of Tamworth have commenced important bacterial works for dealing with sewage, which in the past has run untreated into the River. I am informed that these works are expected to be in operation very shortly.

76. I may also mention that the bacterical works previously authorized for the village of Kingsbury were completed in the year, were inspected in July last and again later, and were found to be working quite satisfactorily and removing pollution from the River.

77. At the present time, the chief pollution of the Tame is not, therefore, occurring in Warwickshire.

The Tame, while a minor stream, receives the sewage of a very populous area in the Black Country, and up till recently many of these towns had not been availing themselves of the opportunities afforded by science in dealing properly with their sewage. I am glad, however, to note that at the present time there is a strong hope that a marked improvement will be effected, as not only have many of the towns established excellent modern works, but Walsall, notably the largest offender of all, has commenced to put its house in order.

78. I referred this matter to DR. REID, the Medical Officer of Health for Staffordshire, and he replies to me as follows:— “The following is the position regarding sewage disposal in South Staffordshire at the present time as compared with a year ago, so far as the populous areas are concerned:—

TIPTON.—The disposal works are practically completed and the work of the sewerage the Burnt Tree District it is believed, will be completed in about four month's time.

OLDBURY.—The new sewage works are approaching completion, and all the dry weather flow of sewage has been fully treated for some months past. The storm water filters are very nearly completed.

BILSTON.—First-class effluents continue to be discharged from these new works.

DARLASTON.—The irregularities mentioned in my last communication (February 22nd, 1909), have been corrected.

WILLENHALL.—A Local Government Board inquiry was held to consider plans of a complete and efficient scheme on 9th February last.

WALSALL.—The new work is now in progress.

WEDNESBURY.—The four new filters are completed and in use, as well as a large new storm water tank."

79. As regards the Avon, a great deal of attention has been given to this River. First of all, I can report the completion of the Rugby new bacterial works, which on inspection, I found to be doing satisfactory work and producing a good effluent. I must, however, not omit to put on record what I have expressed before, that these works are only sufficient to deal with present requirements and any increase in population will necessitate an increase in the number of tanks and filters. This will be necessary quite as much in the interests of the District Council as in that of the County itself. Bacterial purification depends on living organisms and any overtaxing of their powers leads invariably to putrefaction and bad results.
80. At Kenilworth, the works have been well conducted, speaking generally, throughout the year. These works consist of septic tanks and double percolating filters, somewhat shallow on account of the small fall in the land. Difficulties have arisen since their completion owing to the fact that a proportionately large amount of trade waste in the form of tannery refuse has to be dealt with. Unless precautions are taken there is great danger of the filters being put out of order by blocking. It is with much satisfaction, therefore, that I can record that excellent work has been done here during the year. Arrangements have been made by which the flow of trade waste has been equalized, and to some extent its coarser particles intercepted, and as a result of careful management, the condition of the effluent and the Finham Brook—a tributary of the Avon—into which it runs is perfectly satisfactory.
81. The largest population draining into the Avon is that of the City of Coventry, where the population is estimated in the middle of the year, to have been 93,500. The works were originally laid down about eleven or twelve years ago and consist of tanks and large land areas for dealing with the effluent by irrigation, and the sludge by digging or ploughing in. For many years the results achieved were excellent, and a non-polluting effluent was discharged, and the condition of the River Avon was much improved. When these works were completed, the population of the City was under 60,000, so that it is obvious that something is necessitated for an increased capacity to deal with the larger volume of sewage now being received. I have repeatedly called attention to the fact that the effluent was deteriorating. In fact, although the management was good, the solution of an impossible problem was being attempted. I had the advantage of an interview with the Sewage Committee of the City towards the end of the year, and as a result they decided, with my approval, on buying an area of land exceeding 250 acres. I had previously inspected this land, and found it to be admirably suited for irrigation purposes. Application has been made for a loan for purchase, and for the necessary works, but at the time of writing, the Local Government Board Inquiry has not been held. In the meantime, experiments are being carried out to find what type of bacterial plant is best suited to deal with the Coventry sewage and these experiments have been carried out under my supervision.
82. A septic tank and filter was brought into operation early in this year 1910, and the results shown up to the present are, speaking generally, satisfactory.
83. Complaints were made from people in the neighbourhood of Willenhall, of nuisance arising from the farm area. Though I myself have never experienced nuisance outside the farm. I can quite believe that effluvia has been noticed at times. This has been caused by the waterlogged condition of portions of the farm area, and the extension of the area, by preventing water logging, and the exposure of more or less septic sewage in large quantities to the atmosphere, will limit to a very large extent the nuisance complained of.

84. I regret that I am still unable to report satisfactorily on the effluent being turned into the Avon by the Borough of Warwick. Here again the treatment is entirely one of irrigation, and I am bound to again point out, as I have done on former occasions, that one at least of the causes of improper purification is that too much attention is paid to farming, and too little to sewage purification. A sewage farm must be regarded as a means of dealing with sewage, to prevent nuisance and avoid pollution of streams. If the dealing with the sewage is made secondary to the condition of crops, and profit to be derived from the farm, failure from the sewage treatment point of view is almost certain. At Warwick there is a considerable area, if it were properly utilized, though the land is not of very good quality for sewage treatment. I think it would be desirable probably for engineering advice to be taken by the Committee as to what further means can be adopted to improve the quality of the effluent. In connection with this, too, I may mention that the sewage from Budbrook Barracks is treated on land, the effluent from which runs into a small stream and this into the Avon. On inspection towards the latter end of the year, I found that the condition of this brook was unsatisfactory, the effluent being insufficiently purified. This arises from the fact that insufficient care is taken to distribute the sewage on the heavy land of the farm, and I think steps should be taken to insist that more care should be exercised in the process of irrigation.

85. The works at Stratford-on-Avon are very well managed and the difficult problem of coping with sewage treatment has been, on the whole, well dealt with. The sewage at Stratford contains a large quantity of brewery waste and during the process of treatment bacterially, effluvia of a complex nature arise. Experiments have been undertaken to limit this as much as possible, and I am bound to say that on my visits, not only have I found the effluent to be non-polluting, but the condition of the farm, taking into consideration the problem to be solved, very satisfactory.

86. At Kineton the results have not been altogether satisfactory. One of the filters has produced an excellent effluent. The other one at times has not given good results. One reason for this, in my opinion, is that the works are hardly sufficient to cope with the flow of sewage, particularly in winter, and also that the management has not been all that could be desired. On the other hand, I find that the brook at the end of the year was in quite a satisfactory condition. I stated in my Quarterly Report for the second quarter of the year that the whole plant was over-worked and that "I am of opinion, therefore, that not only should a longer period of pumping take place to avoid sewage getting into the River, but that at least one more filter, the same size as the others, should be immediately put down." I understand that an increased time of pumping has been brought about, but that no enlargement of the filter area has been as yet effected.

87. As regards Wellesbourne, I am informed that tenders have been accepted for the plans already provided, and that the work will be commenced during the present year.

88. As regards the Cole, though some pollution takes place from small communities in Warwickshire, the bulk of the sewage effluent comes from outside the County. The effluent from the Yardley Sewage Works runs into this. It will be remembered that owing to pressure by the County Council, extensive works of sewerage and sewage disposal were commenced some years ago. During the present year, part of the sewage has been treated on the old land area, and part on bacterial filters. When I inspected these works, towards the close of the year, I found the bacterial effluent quite satisfactory, and the land effluent partially so. I also found that twelve new rectangular filters were under construction. These filters are of the most modern type and when completed will, I think, effectually deal with the sewage of the district.

89. I am of opinion, too, that the time has arrived for definite works to be undertaken for dealing with the sewage of Coleshill. From inquiries I have made I understand that some preliminary steps have been taken, but no definite scheme has yet matured.

90. I have personally inspected the Blyth for a considerable portion of its length during the autumn, and although the effluent from several Rural communities is discharged into it, and although undoubtedly some pollution is arising, practically the condition of the river cannot be called unsatisfactory.
91. The Local Government Board granted a loan for the very extensive sewage and sewage disposal works designed to deal with the newly developed portions of the Solihull District and the contractors at the present time are at work. In addition to that, the area of the land used for the disposal of sewage of part of Solihull, Knowle and Olton, have all been inspected and found to be working fairly satisfactory, but either supplementary works will be required or else much more attention paid to the distribution of the sewage on the land. The effluent at times, though purified to a considerable extent, is not what it should be for discharge into a River like the Blyth.
92. The Anker is another important River in the County, and I regret to state that, speaking generally, in that portion of the County adjacent to Leicestershire it is by no means satisfactory. This is due to insufficiently purified effluent discharged into it by the Hinckley District Council. This matter has engaged attention some considerable time. The method of treating the sewage is by sedimentation in tanks, and irrigation on land. The land is not well suited for the purpose and the whole matter is complicated by the large amount of trade refuse from the Sketchley Dye Works. At the end of the year, the condition of the River was unsatisfactory and although a considerable expense has been undertaken by the District Council in increasing tank accommodation, I do not think that it will be possible to obtain a reasonable result until special measures are taken to treat the trade effluent, at least to some extent, before it is mixed with the sewage. I intend to give special attention to this matter during the present year—1910.
93. As regards Nuneaton, these works, originally well constructed and continuously well-managed, have produced an effluent which has never in any way been deleterious to the River. During the year, two of the secondary contact beds have been converted into percolating filters with travelling distributors and the effluent has been thereby even further improved. As a matter of fact, the effluent from the secondary contact beds was not so satisfactory as in the earlier years of their institution, but the area of land available for subsequent treatment of the bacterial effluent has always produced a final effluent non-polluting and in which fish have continually lived and flourished.
94. The works at Bedworth and Foleshill have not been producing satisfactory effluents, and alterations have been effected with the view of improving matters.
95. At Polesworth, up to the end of the year, though the plans had been provided, nothing had been done to comply with the injunction obtained to prevent pollution of the River, but I am pleased to be able to report that since then, contracts for carrying out the new sewage and sewage disposal works have been accepted and I understand at the time of writing, will be commenced very soon.
96. The works at the Hatton Asylum have produced an effluent of splendid quality and no nuisance has been produced from them during their working.
97. Every year I supervise the work of sewage disposal plant I become more imbued with the idea that the crux of the matter is the question of management. Works constructed in the most scientific manner, with every up-to-date appliance, will, if not efficiently managed, frequently become ineffectual, while on the other hand, given good management, a small area of land, or secondary bacterial installation will often produce a good result. It is very unfortunate that many bodies do not grasp this fact. They spend considerable sums in laying down works and appear to think that these should go on automatically. As a matter of fact,

much expense is entailed by forgetting that management is equally important with good construction of works. It is obvious that scientifically-designed plant cannot be with safety left to a labourer receiving at few shillings a week, and yet in some instances I have known this to be done, and works originally well-designed be blamed for the unsatisfactory results obtained.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

98. The year 1909 was remarkable as being the first complete year in which the Elementary Schools may be said to have taken their part in a general scheme of preventive medicine. All the schools in the County were inspected by the Assistant County Medical Officers and in every instance a report on the sanitary condition was made, as regards the general condition, lighting, water supply, drainage, etc. Although I have dealt with this in my Report to the Education Committee, I may state in passing that much valuable work was done in improving the sanitary condition both of Council and non-provided schools. Far more important, however, to my mind, is the fact that by Medical Inspection of the children and visiting of the homes by the Health Visitors afterwards, a direct association now exists between the Sanitary and the Education Authorities, and a further opportunity has been given for promulgating principles of Public Health in those homes where it is found to be necessary.

99. At the end of the year I met the District Medical Officers of Health in Conference and discussed with them, among other matters, the sanitary basis of school closure and the rules to be adopted in excluding children from school when suffering from infectious disease. The discussion was a valuable one and an agreement on the principles of action was reached which I feel sure will be of much advantage both to the County Council and to the District Councils.

100. During the year, 70 Schools were closed on account of the prevalence of infectious diseases. Of these, 35, or 50 per cent. were on account of Measles. I have reason to hope that in the future, bearing in mind the Memorandum recently issued by the Medical Officers of the Local Government Board and Board of Education, and the result of the Conference before referred to, that closure will be much less frequent. At its best, School Closure for the prevention of the spread of infection, is a clumsy method. It is an application of the adage of "Locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen." It nearly always fails of its purpose and I am of opinion that except in certain special cases, the power should be used with extreme reluctance.

VACCINATION.

101. The usual table is give in the Appendix, with particulars of the Vaccination work carried out in the County Districts. I can only repeat what I had occasion to write last year, namely, that a perusal of Table I is somewhat sad reading. The number of births registered is practically identical with that of 1908, but the number of Certificates of conscientious objection granted to applicants has gone up by nearly 1,000. In 26 per cent. of the births such certificates were granted and only 57 per cent. of the births registered in the period under review are reported as successfully vaccinated. When we consider that this proportion used to exceed 90 per cent. the seriousness of the matter from the public health point of view becomes apparent. This is not the place to discuss the principles of the Anti-Vaccinationist movement. The County Ratepayers are interested not only from the personal point of view but also from the point of view of the payment of Rates. The history of Smallpox is very definite on this point, that when Vaccination has been allowed to remain in obedience, Smallpox invariably becomes in a shorter or longer period, seriously epidemic when infection happens to be introduced and the worst of it is that those who have to suffer, both in pocket and health, are the persons not responsible for the policy which has led to the outbreak.

102. In some Districts of the County Vaccination is now becoming comparatively rare. For instance, in the Borough of Nuneaton, only 315 infants were vaccinated out of 1,153 born. In Bulkington, out of 55 births, only 15 were vaccinated. In Rugby Urban District 161 were vaccinated out of 469 births and 256 certificates of conscientious objection were obtained. In some of the Rural Districts the matter was even worse. In Rugby Rural District, out of 451 births only 100 children were registered as successfully vaccinated, and 331 certificates of conscientious objection were obtained.

103. I am pleased to be able to report that there is evidence this year that certain of the Vaccination Officers who were lax in the past, have carried out their duties better in that there are fewer cases unaccounted for, than in the previous year. In 1908 the number of cases remaining unvaccinated and unaccounted for was 323; in 1909 the number was 231.

REFUSE DISPOSAL, SCAVENGING, ETC.

104. I am able to chronicle still further improvement in the matters of Refuse Disposal and Scavenging. The Borough of Sutton Coldfield, one of the largest Districts in the County, has been scavenged publicly by the Town Council for the first time on record. Full details of this are given in the summary of the Medical Officer of Health's Report, and although he considers that a marked improvement has resulted, he also considers what has been done during the year as somewhat in the nature of a commencement and not the establishment of a scheme satisfactory in a scientific sense. In the Rural District of Castle Bromwich regular scavenging has been adopted for the constituent parish of Castle Bromwich. It is a marked improvement to the comfort and amenities of the ratepayers.

105. In Foleshill, the Inspector reports with regard to the parish of Exhall:—"A scheme of scavenging was suggested to the Parish Council, and upon two occasions I attended meetings of that body in connection therewith. They were, however, unable to adopt the idea at the present time. I am convinced that very shortly some steps will have to be taken in respect of the emptying of the cesspools and the disposal of the privy refuse in this Parish." In regard to this paragraph, I do not quite understand what the matter has to do with the Parish Council, which is not a body vested with sanitary powers. If scavenging is necessary, as I have no doubt it is, then the proper authority to deal with it is the District Council.

106. As regards Atherstone, the Medical Officer of Health says that public scavenging ought to be established, especially considering the number of new houses erected. This I quite agree with. The Inspector for this District also reports that a large number of complaints are received of the manner in which scavenging was done in the Hartshill District. Other minor defects or deficiencies are referred to in the summaries of the Reports.

107. I am pleased to see that much more attention is now being given to this important matter. It is not only a question of aesthetics or even decency. The deposition of household refuse on land near the dwellings is of necessity injurious to health, if it be only as a breeding place for flies. In connection with this, I attach much importance not only to public scavenging itself, but to the establishment of small water-tight receptacles or bins, which must of necessity be emptied comparatively often and which also prevent soakage of filth into the soil near the dwelling.

INSPECTORS' REPORTS.

108. In the Appendix, the only Report in tabular form drawn up by the inspectors which is missing is the one from Bulkington. From this small District no Report has ever been received. The other Reports, all of which are now drawn up on a uniform plan devised by myself, show that very excellent work is being done generally throughout the County.

HOUSES AND BUILDINGS.

109. There is not much information in the Reports as to detailed work for improving housing conditions. At the close of the year the Housing and Town Planning Act was passed, which does much to simplify the closing of houses unfit for human habitation. In the future, houses may be closed by Sanitary Authorities on their own initiative, without recourse to magisterial action, subject to appeal to the Local Government Board. In many of the Districts of the County there is much scope for the Officers under this new Act, and as in every case where action is taken proceedings have to be reported to me, as County Medical Officer of Health, I shall expect in the future to be kept closer in touch with this important branch of local sanitation.

110. Another important power given by the Act is one giving the County Medical Officer of Health power to enter, the same as the District Medical Officers of Health, and though, speaking generally, it is not likely that such power would be much utilized it gives a *locus standi* of much value in certain special cases.

111. There is not the slightest doubt that the condition of many houses in the County is very unsatisfactory, and I think that efforts should now be made, not in condemning these with the idea of demolishing but with the view of improving the accommodation afforded, as might be done in the vast majority of cases. At the same time it must not be forgotten that the work must be dealt with reasonably, and with great judgment, as a reduction in some of the districts, of the number of houses, unsatisfactory though they be, would lead to overcrowding in others, or would drive certain families into the workhouse.

BYE-LAWS.

112. I am not able, after perusing the Reports, to get much information as to the condition of the Districts as regards Bye-laws. At Tamworth, the approved Bye-laws seem still to be passing periodically to and fro between the Office of the Local Government Board and the District Council, and have not yet been definitely settled. I hope during the present year to get some definite information as to what Bye-laws have been adopted by the various District Councils throughout the County generally.

WATER SUPPLY.

113. Many of the Districts of the County, particularly those near the larger towns, are well supplied with water from public mains. In some of the more rural districts, however, dependence has still to be placed on springs and surface wells. These require continual examination to see that no pollution is taking place, and I am glad to report that as a result of my personal knowledge, and also a perusal of the District Officers' Reports, that great attention continues to be paid to this important subject. In the Borough of Aston Manor, there is hardly a surface well left, and in Erdington and Sutton Coldfield the same remark applies. It is often difficult to convince people that water from surface wells that appears clear may contain the more or less oxidized products of pollution, but such is the case, and as a district becomes populous a suitable and safe supply from shallow wells becomes almost impossible. I notice that great care is taken in the Rural District of Brailes in carefully supervising the wells and springs in the various villages, though the difficulties in a district like this are very great.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

114. Year by year the profession and the public are becoming more aware of the advantages to be derived by the advances of Bacteriology, not only in diagnosis but in coping with infectious diseases. It is now many years since your County Council placed Bacteriological examination, for the purposes of diagnosis for Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever, in the hands of

all Medical men in the County. A wider use of this is being made year by year, and quite rightly so, because it is quite evident in the light of recent investigations, that by no other means is it always possible to judge whether an individual is infected with these diseases by clinical examination only. I have no hesitation in stating that it should be a routine procedure in the interests of public health, for this means of diagnosis is to be undertaken in every case, and it is even more important still that in cases of diphtheria swabs should be taken and examined before the patient is definitely reported to be free from infection. In many infectious diseases there is no means of deciding how long infection lasts, when therefore means have been discovered which will practically at the present time, without fail, tell us in a case of Diphtheria, whether the patient—apparently well—has lost the power of spreading infection. It must be obvious to all—Medical and lay—how important it is for this means to be regularly utilized. It has occurred to me, and indeed inquiries have been made on the subject, whether the County Council would not add to the two diseases already dealt with, that of Phthisis or Consumption. It is very important indeed to know as early as possible whether a person showing possible symptoms of Consumption is really the host of the bacterial bacillus or not. Valuable information can thus be obtained by an examination of the sputum, and I commend the idea to you as one desirable for your consideration.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES, AND MILK SHOPS.

115. With hardly an exception, the Reports of the District Officers refer to the work done by themselves and the Inspectors in relation to these places. Much greater attention is now paid to them than in the past, and I think it may be safely said that milk is generally produced under better circumstances than it was a few years ago. At the same time, however, many Cowsheds are very ill-adapted for the housing of cows. They are too close, dark, and ill-ventilated. The experiment being carried out by some of the Agricultural associations showing that it is not necessary to keep cows unduly warm in order to get good production of milk, are valuable and may be expected to bear fruit. It may now be said as definitely proven that the more cows are inured to conditions of housing where cowsheds are little but open sheds, the better for all concerned.

116. The promised Milk Bill has not yet appeared but there can be no doubt that regulations common to the whole country, and embodying the milk clauses of certain Local Acts, are urgently required in the interests of public health.

HEALTH VISITORS.

117. During the year 1909, the staff of Health Visitors underwent only one change, Mrs. Moore, having to retire on account of ill health. It is only fair that I should state how great a loss I consider her retirement to the Division of the County she worked so well. Not only was she a very strenuous worker but she possessed sympathy and tact of a high order, and was able to do a vast amount of good among the poor to whom she ministered. Her place was filled by the appointment of Miss Hunter, who commenced work only in the last month of the year. I transferred Mrs. Lord to the Rugby Division and Miss Hunter commenced work in the Stratford-on-Avon Division in the place of Mrs. Lord.

118. In many ways the year's work is interesting, owing to the fact that the basis of the Health Visitors' work was to a considerable extent altered by the introduction of Medical Inspection of school children. Each of the Health Visitors acted as a school nurse in her division, and it is obvious, therefore, that owing to the increase of this special work, less time could be given to Health Visiting proper, in the way it had been carried on in previous years. At first sight, this might be thought to be a disadvantage, but my original impression has been corroborated, in that the amalgamation of the offices of Health Visitor and school nurse would be of great advantage to the County in general and to the children in particular. I

think it is fair to put it that a larger amount of work has been done, even from the point of view of Health Visiting, but done in another way. In other words, the homes of those requiring assistance have been dealt with from the point of view of School Hygiene as well as of Domestic Hygiene, while opportunities have been given for observing general home conditions that were not available under the old regime.

119. Table J in the Appendix shows that no less than 6,687 houses were visited. Rather more than half of these visits were to school children, but 1321 were to infants. Owing to the pressure of other work one important type of work has been to some extent neglected. I refer to the "Health Talks" which were formerly given to a large extent in the Elementary Schools. During 1909, only 14 were given, compared with 59 in the previous year. Though I much regret this, it is only right that I should state that the fewness of the "Talks" has been compensated for by the advice which has been given to children personally in school. In other words, hygienic teaching has been during the past year more tutorial and less class instruction. In the future, however, I am anxious that with a larger staff fore-shadowed at the date of writing, more systematic hygienic teaching may be given in the schools in the future.

120. In addition to the County Health Visitors, Health Visitors have been appointed lately by the Boroughs of Aston Manor and Leamington. I am further of opinion that there should be other local appointments made in some of the larger Urban Districts. Much work would thus be done which would be a revelation locally to those who made the appointments, and nothing but satisfaction would result.

121. I have dealt with the routine work of the Health Visitors in each of my Quarterly Reports and do not propose, therefore, to recapitulate at the present time.

122. I cannot close this section, however, without again expressing regret that in some Districts of the County little has been done in the way of voluntary efforts by ladies towards assisting the work of the Health Visitors. In an area like a County it is obvious that for the greatest advantage to be obtained from their work, this must be aided by ladies interested in so-called charitable efforts, by the power they have of stimulating those who require it in their districts. It is only fair that I should say that in some districts the greatest help has been given in the provision of Hospital tickets and other help, and this further shows what might be done were there general co-ordination in the work throughout the County as a whole.

123. The Nurses of the various Nursing Associations frequently render aid, but what I should like to see, would be some general system under County auspices for the co-ordination of voluntary efforts throughout the County.

METEOROLOGY.

124. I am able to append to the Report tables dealing with Meteorological Observations taken at Sutton Coldfield and Leamington respectively. The rain-fall observed was considerably higher in the northern part of the County than at Leamington, the figures being 28·8 as against 25·3 at Leamington. The number of rainy days at Sutton Coldfield was 190, and at Leamington 188. Coming to particular months we find that the rain fall at Leamington was the heaviest in October, the total being equivalent to 4·48 inches. In the same month at Sutton Coldfield it was only 3·55. In December, however, while it was only 3·19 inches at Leamington, it was 4·2 at Sutton Coldfield. Strange to say, although generally regarded as a wet month November was one of the driest, the rain-fall being 0·63 inches in Leamington and 0·92 inches in Sutton Coldfield. The highest temperature was observed on the 13th August at Leamington, where the thermometer reached 85 degrees, while at Sutton Coldfield on the same date it reached 86 degrees. The lowest temperature registered at Leamington was 18° on the 18th and 21st of March, while at Sutton Coldfield the lowest was 4 degrees on the 5th March. As

regards sunshine, I have only records taken at Sutton Coldfield. These show that 1,335 hours were registered, compared with 1,223 in 1908. May was the sunniest month, the total sunshine being 238 hours 27 minutes, compared with only 154 hours 50 minutes in the corresponding month of 1903. The low temperature generally experienced, and the larger rainfall, account in some measure for the very excellent Vital Statistics recorded during the year.

ADULTERATION.

125. During the year 772 samples of Food and Drugs were submitted to the County Analysts, compared with 740 and 653 in the two previous years. The number of samples submitted was in my opinion quite sufficient for the needs of the County having regard to the local requirements and the Memorandum recently issued by the Board of Agriculture. For a long time past the bulk of the purchasing of samples has been done by the three inspectors, who have been officially appointed for this work and for the supervision of Weights and Measures. A few samples were, however, submitted by Sanitary Inspectors, notably Messrs. Parsons and Withers, the Sanitary Inspectors for the Rugby Urban and Rural Districts respectively.
126. Though I consider the work is admirably carried out, without undue harassing of the trader, by the Inspectors of the County, I think it distinctly advisable that in certain of the more populous places, the work should be supplemented by the local sanitary inspectors, who should possess a local detailed knowledge which might at times be effective in tracing offenders against the Acts.
127. Of the 772 samples submitted, 57 proved to be adulterated, giving a percentage of articles adulterated to those submitted of 7·3.
128. A far larger number have been taken by the Inspectors "informally" than in past years. This has been done in accordance with the suggestion of the Board of Agriculture, and much valuable information has been obtained in this way, particularly in tracing milk adulterations to the real offenders when these are not the actual vendors.
129. The only new adulteration discovered during the year was the facing of Rice with mineral matter, whereby the amount of mineral substance is increased to some extent. The object of this adulteration is to make damaged or inferior samples of Rice appear of better quality than they are. In a Report issued by the Chief Food Inspector of the Local Government Board, certain suggestions and standards of amounts of mineral matter permissible were suggested, and the Public Analysts for the County agreed, after experiment, that these were reasonable, and the figures were adopted as a working scale. Notice was given to the vendors in the County that if the standard suggested was exceeded, proceedings would be taken against them for adulteration and the experience of the latter part of the year went to show that this was efficacious to prevent the sale of excessively weighted Rice.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

130. It has been for some years necessary for District Medical Officers of Health to append to their Reports, tabular forms of the results of inspections of Factories and Workshops. In large Urban communities this work is very important. In the Rural areas the workshops are chiefly carpenters' and blacksmiths' shops, and from the nature of these, particularly the latter, much is not required in the way of ventilation. Still in some instances, benefit has accrued from inspection and particularly as regards the condition of conveniences for workers, and I am still able to report a progressive improvement in the way these places are maintained.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.

131. There can be no doubt that at the present time the conditions of practice of Midwives in the County of Warwick is very different to what it was when this Act came into operation. Although, perhaps owing to the great increase of work of the Health Visitors who inspect the

Midwives there has not been quite so much inspection as in the previous two or three years, yet no less than 520 visits of inspection were made. When we consider that the bulk of the Midwives in the County were women who on the passing of the Act were able to prove that they had been practising as Midwives, it is easy to understand that many of them carried on the work in a way very different to the scientific requirements of the twentieth century. Much of the practice was of the rough and ready order. In many instances cleanliness was not considered of much, let alone prime importance, and therefore the work of the Inspectors of Midwives was arduous in endeavouring to bring a change not only in the work but in the habit of mind. The Reports which I have received, and in many instances my own inspection shows beyond the shadow of a doubt that a vast improvement has taken place.

132. In one division during the year, the Inspector collected upwards of 50 midwives at one time, for the purpose of inspection by me. I not only inspected their registers and their bags, but was able to give a short address dealing with the salient points of their work. In addition, a course of lectures was given by Miss Lowe at Aston Manor, and another by Miss Chorlton at Nuneaton, which were well attended and much appreciated, and from which I am convinced great good resulted.

133. Nineteen hundred and nine was the last year in which casual Midwives could work, the Act requiring that in 1910 every woman who habitually and for gain practises Midwifery must be upon the Register of the Central Midwives Board. It has been thought that to throw out a considerable number of women from practice would lead to a shortage of midwives, especially in certain districts. I do not think that this will happen, but if there be a shortage it will only last for a short time, as a considerable number of women are coming forward eager for training, who will replace the untrained women now compulsorily retired. The Education Committee again set aside £150 for granting scholarships for training midwives, and scholarships were given to nurses and others who were well recommended and were deemed fit to receive training. As I have mentioned before, it has been found desirable except in special circumstances, to limit these applications to women who are already acting as nurses of the Nursing Associations in the County, these Associations as a condition of receiving grants, guaranteeing to support the midwife in a particular district for a term of years.

134. Only 5 cases of Puerperal Fever were notified in the practises of midwives, a much smaller figure than in the past. I have made arrangements with the District Medical Officers of Health to forward me a full report of each case occurring, and also to report to me when the necessary disinfection has been carried out to the satisfaction of the Local Authority, as required by the Act.

135. Application was made by the Corporation of the Borough of Leamington for the work of Inspection within the Borough area to be delegated to them, but having regard to the Report of the Parliamentary Committee, which met to consider the working of the Act, it was considered undesirable on every ground for such delegation to take place.

136. The number of cases of stillbirth reported to me was 86, compared with 100 in the previous year. Inquiries were made as far as possible into the causes of these stillbirths. I attach great importance to this as apparently do the midwives themselves, for in a large number of instances at the present time, it is the custom of the midwives to give particulars of the stillbirth when sending in the notification form.

137. Two hundred and one notices were also received from midwives on requiring Medical aid, compared with 184 in the previous year. No difficulty has arisen in the County area in regard to the provision of the payment for Medical aid.

138. The total number of midwives on the roll was 389 but the actual number who sent in notification of their intention to practise was 309, or 19 more than in the previous year. Of these, however, only 89 have received training and were Certificated; the others were on the Roll by virtue of having been in practice at the date of the passing of the Act.

SPECIAL DEATH RATES.

139. As I have done for some years, I give below in tabular form figures showing the death-rates in the County per 1,000 from Typhoid Fever, Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

	Typhoid Fever.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.
1899.	0·25	0·15	0·08
1900.	0·22	0·14	0·04
1901.	0·13	0·16	0·11
1902.	0·09	0·12	0·15
1903.	0·04	0·11	0·12
1904.	0·07	0·18	0·10
1905.	0·04	0·14	0·05
1906.	0·07	0·16	0·05
1907.	0·07	0·13	0·05
1908.	0·02	0·17	0·06
1909.	0·03	0·13	0·05

140. It will be satisfactory to observe that the figures for Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria are below those of the previous year, while the figure for Typhoid Fever though 0·01 higher than in the previous year, is lower than any other year during the period.

CONCLUSION.

141. In closing this Report I cannot help being struck by the fact that it may perhaps appear somewhat deficient in interest, but it must be remembered that in the past twenty-one years I have dealt with most of the problems of sanitation within the scope of County Council Government, and that to return to them without special reason would savour of vain repetition. It must also be borne in mind that it has been said "Happy is the Country without a history." In a sense this might apply to the sanitary condition of the County. If there is little in the way of epidemic disease on which to comment, the public may count itself happy, and such has been the case in Warwickshire for a year or two.

142. I would point out, however, that one fact stands out above all others, viz.:—That the rate of Infant Mortality has reached the lowest figure I have yet been able to record. It is not often in human affairs that one can point definitely to cause and effect but having regard to all other circumstances bearing on the case, I think I may congratulate the County Council on this, and at the same time, attribute some of the improvement at least to the policy of the utilization of women Health Visitors of which your County Council under its own auspices, was the first to take advantage.

143. I must again bear testimony to the excellent and loyal work done by my staff. Nine-
teen hundred and nine will always remain in the memories of the officials of the department as a year of particularly hard work, owing to the Medical Inspection of school children having been added to its duties.

144. I must also bear testimony to the co-operation afforded by the Officers of the District Councils, their action thus allowing a harmonious co-ordination of the affairs in the County making for the improvement of Public Health.

I have the honour to remain,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. BOSTOCK HILL, M.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

URBAN DISTRICTS.

ASTON MANOR.

145. DR. R. HILL NORRIS presents the Report of this Borough for 1909 as Acting Medical Officer of Health. He reports that the health of the Manor has during the year been favourable in comparison with preceding years and that the vital statistics appertaining showed, that the Borough compared well with the average of previous years and with those of the large towns.
146. Taking into consideration the density of the population it is satisfactory to be able to report that the general death-rate was as low as 13·9 per 1,000, being 0·4 higher than in 1908, but 1·0 lower than the average of the ten previous years.
147. He is also able to report that the infantile death-rate was the lowest ever recorded.
148. Referring to the population, he estimates that this in the middle of 1909, based on the number of inhabited houses, was 79,448. The Registrar General estimates the population by calculation on previous rates and increases alone, as 85,257. This is obviously much too high, and the birth, death and Zymotic diseases rates consequently appear too low. Calculated on what it is reasonable to believe is approximately the population, the Birth and Death-rates are 25·6 and 14·9 respectively. Calculated however, on the population estimated by the Registrar General—without local knowledge—they appear as 23·9 and 13·9. Although these are officially recognised rates, as they are so obviously inaccurate, I shall not adopt them for estimates for County purposes.
149. The total number of births registered in the Borough, showed a further falling off, the number being 2,039 compared with 2,198 in the previous year. The Birth-rate for the previous ten years averaged 28·9, as against 25·6 on the present probable population.
150. The number of deaths registered within the Borough was 972, compared with 930 during the previous year, fractionally higher, but quite satisfactory.
151. As regards Zymotic Diseases, 149 deaths were registered belonging to this class. The rate was 2·0 below that of 1908, and practically the same as that for 1907, the figure on the proper population being 1·8.
152. As regards Infantile Mortality, the total deaths of infants under one year, was 261, giving a rate per 1,000 births of 120, compared with 109 for England and Wales, and an average of 157 for the Manor, for the previous ten years.
153. Referring to this question DR. HILL NORRIS says:—"The poorer classes living in small and back-to-back houses usually contribute a higher infantile mortality than those living in towns of a more residential or affluent character, and as Aston Manor consists mainly of the former and is very densely populated for its area, it is a matter of satisfaction to note the continued decline in the death-rate of infants under one year of age.

"Among the infant population generally 'wasting diseases' and 'diarrhoeal diseases,' account as a rule, for the greater loss of life, and one of the principal factors in their causation is, without doubt, the deprivation of the natural breast milk and consequent resort to artificial or hand-feeding.

“Unsuitable diets are often persisted in, which the infant's stomach rejects, or his tissues fail to assimilate, and many a baby's life is sacrificed through the inability of those about the child to understand that feeding and nourishing are not quite the same thing. The ill-effects of artificial feeding of infants become exaggerated in hot weather on account of the greater liability to contamination of food from dust and flies, milk food often becoming acid, and developing bacteria in the course of a few hours, although there be outwardly no apparent change. Since the adoption of the Notification of Births Act, 1907, the notice of the birth of a child is received within two days of the event, and enables the Lady Health Visitor to pay early visits to the homes and give advice to the mother as to the proper feeding and management of the infant, and this has been attended with the most encouraging results.”

154. Referring to notification of infectious diseases, the Report says that 600 cases were notified, including:—425 Scarlet Fever, 72 Erysipelas, 64 Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, 32 Typhoid Fever, and 6 Puerperal Fever. This number is considerably above that reported last year, and indeed is higher than in any year since 1903. The increase is due almost entirely to the large number of cases of Scarlet Fever reported, it being necessary to go back to 1896 to find a number as large as reported in 1909. In other respects, speaking generally, the Report is satisfactory.

155. Not a single case of Smallpox was reported.

156. Referring to the Scarlet Fever prevalence, DR. HILL NORRIS says:—“During the first quarter of the year 61 notifications were received, during the second quarter 82, the third quarter 127, but during the last quarter there were 155; 61 in October, 46 in November, and 48 in December, making a total 425 cases notified during 1909, as compared with 261 in the preceding year. These 425 cases were mostly of a mild type, and occurred in 365 houses; 340 were removed to the Aston Manor Fever Hospital, representing a percentage of 80 cases isolated. The type of disease prevalent in the Borough was of a less virulent character than in the preceding year, 10 deaths occurring among the 425 notified cases, viz:—4 at home and 6 in the Hospital.

“Particular attention is paid to the incidence of this disease in the various schools of the Borough. In each case notified a visit and report are made, and a record kept of the Public Elementary and Private Schools attended by children from the infected homes, and notices have been sent to the head teachers of the schools attended requesting them not to permit them to return to school until the house and clothing have been satisfactorily disinfected, and a medical certificate to this effect has been furnished.”

157. Referring to the Diphtheria cases, DR. HILL NORRIS reports that they were fairly evenly scattered over the Borough, but the disease was most prevalent in the first quarter of the year, when 23 cases were notified. He says:—“It is gratifying to note that medical practitioners continue to take more advantage of the facilities provided for the bacteriological examination of throat secretions at the University of Birmingham. This frequently enables earlier and more certain diagnosis to be made, and tends also to greater accuracy in statistics relating to this disease.”

158. Referring to Typhoid Fever, DR. HILL NORRIS says:—“This disease has always been endemic in Aston Manor, but since the epidemic of 1899 there has been each year, with one or two exceptions, a gradual diminution in the number of cases notified. During the past year 32 cases were notified, as compared with 15 cases in the preceding year, which year was exceptional, as showing the lowest number of cases notified from this disease since the Notification Act came into force, 1890. The comparison of the cases notified each year is given in Table on page 28.

“Five deaths were attributed to this disease. Four of these deaths were registered, and occurred in the Borough, and one occurred in an institution outside the Borough boundary.

"The almost continued diminution of typhoid fever since the epidemic of 1899 is an indication of the improved sanitary condition of the Borough, and although there has been an increase during the past year, I do not anticipate an increase in the future to any extent.

"In no instance was well water used, the supply being the same as Birmingham, from the Elan Valley. The milk supply in each case being varied, there was nothing to cause me to suspect it as a source of infection."

159. As regards non-notifiable disease, the Report states:—"During the early months of the year there was a severe epidemic of Measles, necessitating the closure of all the Infants' Departments of schools in the Borough and causing more than treble the average number of deaths from this disease."

160. Whooping Cough on the other hand was but little prevalent, causing only 12 deaths, compared with an average of 35 in the previous ten years.

161. One satisfactory feature of the Health Returns is the comparatively small number of deaths from Zymotic Diarrhoea. This was 35, compared with an average of 118 in the previous ten years. Thirty-one of these cases occurred in infants under twelve months.

162. As regards Puerperal Fever, the total number of cases reported was 6, compared with 5 as the average of the previous ten years. Three of these cases occurred in the practice of midwives. DR. HILL NORRIS says:—"Each case has been carefully inquired into by the Medical Officer of Health and the Inspector, and if occurring in the practice of a midwife, a report has been made to the Executive Officer under the Midwives Act, 1902, for the County of Warwick, DR. A. BOSTOCK HILL. Disinfection has been carried out in all cases, and in the cases occurring in the practice of midwives, the following section of the rules of the Central Midwives Board was rigorously enforced.

"Whenever a midwife has been in attendance upon a patient suffering from Puerperal fever, or from any other illness supposed to be infectious, she must disinfect herself and all her instruments and other appliances, to the satisfaction of the local sanitary authority, and must have her clothing thoroughly disinfected before going to another labour. Unless otherwise directed by the local supervising authority, all washable clothing should be boiled, and other clothing should be sent to be stoved (by the local sanitary authority) and then exposed freely to the open air for several days."

163. Phthisis as usual was the cause of considerable mortality, 96 deaths being registered from it, compared with 102 in 1908. In addition, 22 deaths were recorded from tuberculous diseases. The death-rate is practically identical with that for previous years. In addition DR. HILL NORRIS reports that 8 deaths were registered as due to Influenza.

164. Referring to general sanitary administration and dealing with closet accommodation DR. HILL NORRIS says:—"I find from the Inspector's figures that the year has been exceptionally good as regards the number of old privy middens abolished and replaced by water closets 491 of the latter (with proper receptacles for house refuse, having been constructed in place of privy middens during the twelve months. *This is the highest number for the past five years."

165. Systematic house-to-house inspection has been carried on as usual. Four streets were thus inspected, namely:—Wilton Street, Berners Street, a part of Wheeler Street, and Alma Street. A table is enclosed showing the defects found at such inspection, with the action taken to remedy them. DR. HILL NORRIS observes in Wilton Street, Berners Street and Wheeler Street, most of them were abated, but in Alma Street several remained under notice when the year closed as the inspection was only made during the last two months of the year.

166. Speaking of house accommodation, DR. HILL NORRIS says:—"The houses in the Borough are largely of the artisan type. The proportion of houses known as 'back-to-back' in those streets which have been systematically inspected up to the present is estimated at 38·7. This may be a considerable over-estimate as applied to the Borough generally, as your Inspector explains in his Report that the streets on which this estimate is based are the older and poorer ones and the proportion of 'back-to-back' houses in the more modern and better streets not yet systematically inspected would be much less."
167. During the year only one new house was built.
168. The Report also deals with the administration of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Act, and states that there are 468 dairymen and purveyors of milk, but no cow-keepers on the register. In 25 cases formal notices were served to clean milk stores or milkshops, and were duly complied with.
169. There are no lodging houses registered in Aston Manor, nor any houses let in lodgings.
170. As regards sewers, the Borough Surveyor reports as follows:—"The only work in connection with the sewers which has been executed during the past twelve months is the reconstruction of a part of the Aston, Handsworth and Smethwick joint sewer at Salford Bridge. The sewer at this point is of semi-circular section, 7 feet diameter, and was originally carried over the Hockley Brook on two brick arches supported by a pier. This pier, together with the arches offered considerable obstruction to the flow of storm water in the brook. The new work comprised the demolition of the pier and arches, together with the short length of sewer supported by them, and the construction of a self-supporting ferro-concrete sewer. The clear span over the brook is about 25 feet, and a very considerable increase in the area of the brook waterway has been obtained."
171. No complaints have been made with regard to the few offensive trades carried on in the Borough.
172. The number of registered slaughter houses is 29, of which, however, only 23 are in regular use. They are regularly inspected and during the year 520 visits have been made to them. There was no seizure of unsound meat or other food made.
173. The Report further deals with the removal of house refuse and disposal, and states that all night-soil and house refuse is destroyed by burning. Ashpits and middens are emptied on application, and dust-bins and tubs are emptied periodically, some weekly and some fortnightly. From the Table in the Report, it would appear that the number of ashpits in existence is 8,817, dust-bins or tubs 1,261, and middens 1,181.
174. As regards Isolation Hospitals, the Report states that 487 cases were admitted from the Borough and from the outside districts which have made arrangements for isolation with the Borough. Only 9 cases died in hospital, giving the very low mortality rate of 1·8 per cent. of those admitted. Referring to this, DR. HILL NORRIS says:—"Much advantage is derived by Scarlet Fever patients, especially during the warmer months, from isolation in a Fever Hospital well removed from the smoky atmosphere of a town, where they are able to enjoy fresh air and greater freedom in the grounds of the institution.

"Very few return cases were recorded during the year, a result due largely to continuing to interview one or other of the parents before the discharge of the patient, advising them to send the child leaving the hospital away for a month where there are no other children or susceptible people, or to send away those children who are at home and who have not had the disease for that period, thereby obtaining a month's quarantine outside hospital. The majority of parents adopt this plan, and it has been very successful.

"No infected clothing leaves the hospital, the parents of each patient supplying clothes on their discharge."

175. Appended to the Report is one from the Health Visitor, on the work done during the year. In it, it is reported that no less than 2,135 visits were made to the homes of babies, of which 1,569 were primary visits, and 566 re-visits. She refers to the importance of the work under the Notification of Births Act, which has been adopted in the Borough, and says: "I am almost invariably well received, and in only one case have I been actually refused admission." She also states:—"Infants seem to be taken out of doors more than in the past, and mothers are beginning to see the great importance of breast-feeding; and also, where children are artificially fed, the importance of boiling and covering of milk intended for that purpose."

"Pantry accommodation is often rather limited, and the covering of food somewhat interfered with in consequence. In the poorer homes food is necessarily purchased often in small quantities, but this is an advantage, in that it is consumed almost at once, instead of deteriorating through improper keeping."

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
79,448	25·6	14·9	1·8	120

BULKINGTON.

176. MR. LIONEL ED. ORTON estimates the population of this district to have slightly increased during the year.
177. The Birth-rate was only 31·2, nearly 4 per 1,000 less than in the previous year.
178. The Death-rate was a very high one, 21·0 per 1,000. This high rate follows two others almost equally high in 1907 and 1908. The high mortality as in the previous year, was chiefly due to an excess of deaths in people 65 years of age and upwards.
179. The infant mortality was very unsatisfactory. Nine deaths were registered in children under one year of age, giving the very high rate of 173 per 1,000 births. Four of these deaths were due to premature birth, 1 to Diarrhœa, 1 to Bronchitis, 1 to Pneumonia, and 2 to other causes.
180. Only 3 cases of infectious disease were notified, namely, 1 of Diphtheria, 1 of Typhoid Fever, and 1 of Scarlet Fever. The latter case was removed to Hospital.
181. It is reported that the Factories and Workshops have been visited from time to time and have been found satisfactory.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
1,665	31·2	21·0	0·6	173

ERDINGTON.

182. DR. BOSTOCK HILL reports a considerable increase in population of this flourishing district. As the result of a Census of inhabited houses, he estimates the gross population to have been at the end of the year 31,688, but after eliminating the inmates of public institutions the majority of whom do not belong to the district, the population appears to be 29,720.
183. The Birth-rate, 27·03, was the highest recorded since 1901 and this fact is an interesting one having regard to the decreasing Birth-rate throughout the country generally.
184. The number of deaths to be debited to the district is 312, which gives a Death-rate of 10·46, which, though higher than the last two years, is undoubtedly a very satisfactory one.

185. The infant mortality is also a very good figure. In fact, it may be said to be practically a normal figure, namely, 74 per 1,000 registered births.
186. Referring to the causes of infantile deaths he points out that when compared with last year, the main fact is the diminution of deaths from Diarrhœa, and ascribes this to the summer being comparatively cool and wet.
187. The Zymotic death-rate was again very low and compares favourably with the previous year. Only 19 deaths were registered from the seven principle Zymotic diseases, namely:—Measles, 5; Whooping Cough, 3; Typhoid Fever, 1; Diphtheria, 6; Scarlet Fever, 3; and Diarrhœa, 1.
188. Not a single case of Smallpox was notified during the year.
189. The number of cases of Scarlet Fever, namely 189, was the same as in the previous year, and the type of disease must have been particularly mild as the rate of mortality was only equal to 1·5 per cent. of the notified cases. Dr. BOSTOCK HILL says:—"This is the lowest rate of mortality I ever remember to have recorded."
190. As was anticipated, owing to the fact that the disease had been absent from the district for several years, a considerable number of cases of Measles occurred and 5 deaths resulted. It is stated that every precaution was taken to deal with the illness, leaflets being distributed cautioning parents of the dangers to be avoided and the means to be taken to prevent the spread of the disease.
191. Dr. BOSTOCK HILL deals at some length with the question of Diphtheria, and says that 53 cases were notified, of which 6 proved fatal. He says:—"This is a comparatively low rate of mortality chiefly to be described perhaps to the use of anti-toxin, which is now becoming more frequent."
192. He calls attention to the fact that anti-toxin can be obtained in the case of patients who are too poor to afford it for themselves, on application to the Sanitary Inspector's Office.
193. Although 23 cases of Typhoid Fever were registered, 18 of them occurred in public institutions, so that only five should be considered as belonging to the district proper.
194. Referring to this he says:—"In no case could I discover that oysters or other shell-fish were probably associated with the outbreak, but in three cases which were notified as Typhoid Fever I am of opinion that the after history of the cases precludes the possibility of the disease being true Typhoid Fever."
195. Whooping Cough showed about an average mortality.
196. The mortality from Diarrhœa was very much reduced, the number of deaths being 4, as compared with 10 in 1908, and the majority of these deaths should not be debited to the district proper.
197. Referring to Consumption, he shows that there has been a considerable reduction; the per centage of deaths from Phthisis to total deaths being only 6, compared with 9 in the previous year.
198. He also deals with the measures that have been taken with cases notified under the new Order of the Local Government Board making the notification of pauper cases compulsory.
199. He also points out that the deaths from Cancer and malignant disease show a further advance to 24, compared with 20 and 14 in the two previous years.

200. The Report deals with the water supply of the district and shows that 11 more wells have been closed in which the water was found to be so polluted as to be injurious to health. At the present time there is hardly a house in the district supplied with well water, except in one or two instances where the mains are not yet available. All existing private wells are periodically examined and their condition noted, while in the case of every cowshed and in the district, there is a perfectly pure water supply.
201. A detailed Report is annexed from the Surveyor of the Council on the work done in his department, including the laying out of new streets and inspection of buildings. Briefly it shows that 5,282 lineal yards of new roads were in course of construction during the year, while 1,654 lineal yards of roads were declared Highways repairable by the inhabitants at large.
202. It shows that much work has been done in improving the sewerage system, and inspecting and cleansing, and flushing sewers during the year.
203. There is a record, too, of the laying out of a new park in George Road having been commenced, and also the purchase of $13\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land in Court Lane, in addition to be used as a public park and recreation ground.
204. In addition, designs have been prepared and contracts let for the erection of up-to-date public Lavatories at the Tram Terminus, at Orphanage Road, and at Wood End Road.
205. Referring to the very important subject of scavenging, DR. BOSTOCK HILL says:—"I have been pleased with the excellent way this has been done; in fact, I think there are few districts at the present time where removal of household refuse is better carried out."
206. Referring to privy middens, he states that there is now hardly a single one remaining in the district, except where at present no sewer is available for the drainage.
207. In conclusion DR. BOSTOCK HILL refers to the desirability of the provision of a Destructor and the adoption of the Notification of Births Act, and says:—"For several reasons the question of a Destructor has been allowed to remain in obedience, but the matter, I know, has received the attention of your Committee."

"As regards the adoption of the Act, I have given I hope reasons which may be considered cogent for this, in the body of the Report, and would only say further that it must be obvious that information as to the occurrence of births must be antecedent to the successful dealing, with the important subject of Infant Mortality."

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
29,720	27·03	10·46	0·63	74

KENILWORTH.

208. DR. TANGYE estimates the population at 5,170.
209. The births registered numbered 120 of which 7 were illegitimate. This yields a Birth rate of 23·2 per 1,000, which compares favourably with that for the previous year, which was only 19·6.
210. The number of deaths registered was 73, but certain others which occurred outside the district, at the Warneford Hospital, the Union Workhouse, and Heathcote Hospital must be added. The total number to be credited thus becomes 82, giving an annual death-rate 15·9 per 1,000, a considerably higher one than that of the preceeding year and also above the average of the last ten years. DR. TANGYE attributes this chiefly to the larger number of deaths of persons of 65 years of age and upwards.

211. The Infant Mortality was satisfactory, the rate being considerably below the average of the previous ten years. Of the causes of infant deaths 4 were due to premature birth, 2 to Marasmus, and 1 to Measles. It is very satisfactory to find that none were due to Diarrhœa.
212. As regards notifications of infectious disease, only 31 cases were reported, though this is a larger number than that for the previous year. The cases consisted of Scarlet Fever, 21; Diphtheria, 5; Typhoid Fever, 4; and Erysipelas, 1.
213. Of the 5 cases of Diphtheria, three occurred in one house; four were removed to the Isolation Hospital.
214. Seventeen of the 21 Scarlet Fever cases were removed to Hospital.
215. Of the 4 cases of Typhoid Fever, three occurred in one house and one in a house opposite. This outbreak is reported as being associated with various sanitary defects in the houses occupied, but the source was not definitely traced.
216. The only outbreak of infectious disease amongst school children was one of Whooping Cough at Burton Green School.
217. The Report of the Sanitary Inspector states that notices to abate 176 nuisances were served during the year, of which 36 were cases of cottages with impure water supply, 11 defective W.C.'s, 12 defective sink drainage and gulleys, 2 foul cesspools, 3 foul privies, 1 insufficient water closet accommodation to workshop, and 8 stopped drains.
218. Sewer extensions have been completed during the year along Windy Arbour Road, Barrowell Lane, and St. John Street.
219. All the sewers in the district have been regularly flushed thrice weekly.
220. The Report also deals with the work done in the way of Dairies, Cowsheds, Bakehouses, and Factories Inspection.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
5,170	23·2	15·9	0·39	84

LEAMINGTON.

221. Dr. BROWNE reports that the population of this Borough has not greatly increased. He has estimated the population upon two-thirds of the natural increase of births over deaths, and on this basis he considers the population to be 27,252.
222. The Birth-rate was practically identical with the previous year, namely 15·8. The Birth-rate varied considerably in the different wards, for while it was as high as 20·6 in the South-East ward, in Milverton and Lillington ward it was only 12·7.
223. He reports also a Death-rate of 14·1 considerably lower than the average.
224. The Infant Mortality has slightly increased being 101 per 1,000 registered births, compared with 84 in the previous year.
225. He points out that the highest mortality is set down under the headings of Heart Disease, Cancer, Bronchitis, and Pneumonia, in those of advanced age, while Pulmonary Tuberculosis also caused a heavy mortality between the ages of 25 and 65.
226. He notes that the Registrar reports that 20 infants who died under 5 years were insured.
227. The Zymotic Death-rate was a low one, namely 0·4.

228. Referring to infectious diseases, he reports that 25 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified of which 20 were dealt with in Hospital. The type of disease was mild and no death occurred.
229. Measles apparently was not epidemic during the year. There was no mortality from it, so that the type of disease must have been mild.
230. The most prevalent of the notifiable diseases was Diphtheria, of which 73 cases were reported. Sixty of these occurred at the Warnford Hospital, but of these 26 were found on examination to be "Carrier" cases. Mortality was very low, only two deaths being registered.
231. Only 2 cases of Typhoid Fever were notified, 1 of which was treated in hospital. On case proved fatal, and this was an imported case.
232. Referring to Consumption, he records that 20 deaths were registered and only one case was voluntary reported to him. He reports that disinfection was rigorously carried out in all houses where the cases occurred.
233. Under the head of "General Remarks," he states that the Borough escaped all diseases in an epidemic form.
234. He refers also to the fact that Diphtheria Anti-toxin is supplied free to all who are unable to pay for it, and that the results of this have been good.
235. Referring to Slaughter-houses, he says:—"These have been regularly inspected and found in good condition. Few faults were found, and all instructions were faithfully attended to by owners. I still advocate the construction of a public abattoir; for, in spite of all efforts I feel sure that meat of questionable quality can yet be passed into sale for food in present, slaughter-house conditions."
236. Referring to action taken under the Food and Drugs Acts, he says:—"Three prosecutions for tampering with Milk were followed by conviction in every case. A few samples of milk were scarcely up to required standard of purity, but did not warrant prosecution. Owners were cautioned by Sanitary Authority.
- "Under the Food and Drugs Act, nearly all samples stood analysis. Three samples of rice were found faced with mineral matter. Vendors were cautioned, and the rice was withdrawn from sale."
237. He reports also that the Factory and Workshops Acts were well administered, and that no house was closed under the Working Classes Act.
238. He records a very important step in the appointment of a Health Visitor in March, 1909, and referring to this says:—"It is her duty to visit every case of childbirth which has not been attended by a medical man, so as to satisfy the Sanitary Authority as to the hygiene of the house, and to give such advice and assistance as may be necessary. From March to 31st December the Nurse paid 340 visits."
239. He quotes from the Borough Surveyor the fact that the consumption of water per head was 23·4 gallons and that 15,564 tons of refuse were burnt in the Destructor.
240. The Report includes among its Tables one showing Meteorological readings in the Borough during the year.
241. Appended are the Reports from the two Sanitary Inspectors as to the work done in their department.
242. MR. ANDERSON reports that he obtained three orders for the destruction of unsound food, namely, one box of wet fish, 116 lbs. of foreign meat, and one large pig which upon being slaughtered showed distinct signs of tuberculosis. Other small quantities of meat and vegetables were voluntarily given up by the owners.

243. Mr. ANDERSON also reports that in the action he took under the Food and Drugs Acts, three of the samples of rice taken were certified as being faced with mineral matter to the extent of 0·83, 0·74, and 0·7 per cent. respectively. The vendors were warned and the rice was at once withdrawn from sale.
244. Five samples of cream were also taken, of which one showed a slight excess of preservative above the limit of the Board of Agriculture.
245. Mr. HARRISON for No. 2 District refers to the important subject of house-to-house inspection, and 162 houses have been inspected by this method. He reports that in his district he seized 36 lbs. of cherries, exposed for sale on a hawker's barrow, and the vendor was summoned and fined £2 including costs. He also seized two carcasses of rabbits, the vendor of which was proceeded against and fined.
246. He also reports that he has visited the Restaurants in the District from time to time, and has always found the food wholesome and the premises clean.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
27,252	15·8	14·1	0·4	101

NUNEATON.

247. Mr. PEACOCK estimates the population to be 36,041, an increase of 2,335 on the previous year.
248. He estimates the Birth-rate at 31·2 per 1,000, or 3·3 lower than in 1908. Twenty-five of the births registered were illegitimate.
249. The death-rate was quite satisfactory, being 10·4, compared with 10·5 and 12·0 in the two previous years.
250. There has been a further slight improvement in the rate of infant mortality. The figure for last year stands at 91 per 1,000 births, compared with 95 and 134 in the two previous years.
251. As regards infectious diseases it is satisfactory to be able to report that in the incidence of this class of disease was comparatively small. Only 73 cases of notifiable diseases were reported, including Scarlet Fever 37; Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, 16; Typhoid Fever, 6; and Puerperal Fever, 3.
252. As regards fatality, not a single death occurred from Scarlet Fever and only 3 deaths from Diphtheria.
253. Of the 6 cases of Typhoid Fever reported, 2 proved fatal. Mr. PEACOCK says:—"Of the six cases three could not be accounted for, of the others, two were due to insanitary conditions and one imported."
254. Measles was very prevalent. Twenty deaths were due to it, all but one occurring in patients under 5 years of age.
255. Diarrhœa was responsible for 8 deaths.
256. Phthisis was responsible for 21 deaths and other tubercular diseases for 24.
257. Referring to methods of control of Tuberculosis, Mr. PEACOCK says:—"By notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908, the premises are visited, instructions given and a spitting eup and disinfectants supplied. One case only has been notified during the year. The premises are disinfected after death in Tuberculosis Diseases on request. There is no hospital accommodation for this class of disease."

258. MR. PEACOCK also reports:—"The Council provide free of cost to Medical Practitioners in the Borough, outfits for bacteriological examinations in suspected cases of Diphtheria and Enteric Fever. I regret to say little use has been made of them, letters have again been sent to each Medical man informing them that outfits could be obtained at the Council offices.
259. He also reports that Anti-Diphtheritic-Serum is now supplied to medical men free of cost on application.
260. The abattoir which was being erected is now completed and ready for occupation.
261. A common lodging-house has been opened during the year, with accommodation for 101 male lodgers. MR. PEACOCK says:—"The owner carried out all the requirements of the Council, and the premises were placed upon the register 25th August, 1909. It has been admirably conducted since the opening, and has supplied a long-felt want."
262. The Report refers to the water supply, Milk supply, sewerage and drainage, and the removal and disposal of house refuse.
263. There is also a Report on an outbreak of poisoning, believed to be due to the consumption of ice cream, at Attleborough. A sample of faeces was taken from one patient, and of blood from another and sent to the University of Birmingham for bacteriological analysis, and the conclusion forwarded was that both patients suffered from poisoning by Gaertner Bacillis.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
36,041	31·2	10·4	1·1	91

RUGBY.

264. DR. TANGYE estimates the population to have increased but little, and considers that the figure 22,680 represents it fairly accurately.
265. The Birth-rate was a very low one, being 17·9, the lowest rate for the past 11 years.
266. The net deaths registered in the town were 220, equivalent to an annual death-rate of 9·7 fractionally lower than that for last year.
267. As regards infant mortality, only 23 deaths of infants under a year were registered, giving the very low rate of 57 per 1,000 births. This rate compares well with the average for the previous ten years, which was 94 per 1,000 births.
268. The Zymotic Death-rate was very low, only 0·35 per 1,000.
269. Among other causes of death, Phthisis was responsible for 13, Bronchitis for 19, Pneumonia for 15, Cancer for 14, Heart Disease for 26, Puerperal Fever for 1, while 6 were due to accidents.
270. It is satisfactory to be able to point out that not a single death was due either to Typhoid Fever or Scarlet Fever.
271. Eighty-six cases of infectious disease were notified, compared with 58, 63, and 109 for the three previous years. Of these cases, 39 were Diphtheria, 24 Scarlet Fever, 3 Typhoid Fever, 1 Smallpox and 1 Puerperal Fever.
272. As regards the case of Smallpox, DR. TANGYE says:—"The case of Smallpox was notified from Rowland Street in a man who had just returned from Cairo. The patient was promptly isolated at the Joint Smallpox Hospital, and all the inmates of the house were vaccinated

and kept in quarantine till well over the incubation period of the disease. No further case occurred. The patient himself had been vaccinated some years before, and showed a comparatively mild form of the disease. It is interesting to note that his travelling companion, whose destination was at Camberwell, was also on his arrival home notified as suffering from Smallpox."

273. Referring to outbreaks of infectious disease among school children, Dr. TANGYE says:—
"The town has been singularly free from epidemics amongst school children during the greater part of the year, and there was no necessity to close any school. Towards the close of the year, however, Measles began to appear, and in spite of exclusion from school of suspicious cases and other children of the household in which Measles occurred, the disease gained ground and continued to do so during the Christmas Holidays."

274. As regards works of a public nature, a new Corn Exchange has been opened near the main entrance to the Cattle Market.

275. The Sewage Works are reported as having produced a satisfactory effluent.

276. The whole of the sewers of the town have been well flushed and kept in good order.

277. The water supply is reported to have been quite satisfactory on analysis. The bed of the River Avon from Brownsover Reservoir to Clifton Mill, a distance of about 1 mile, was thoroughly cleaned out, the filters have been well cleaned, and everything done to maintain the quality of the water.

278. The Public Baths are in course of erection in Regent Street, at a cost of £4,000, and it is hoped these will be ready for use early this year.

279. The Sanitary Inspector, whose Report is appended, gives an account of the work done in his department and says *inter alia* there are 14 slaughter-houses in the town, to which frequent visits were made. The sanitary condition of each has been well maintained. Four beasts were condemned as unfit for food and afterwards destroyed. All these were voluntarily surrendered and no legal action was necessary.

280. As regards Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops, the Inspector's Report states that there are 57 of these on the register, that they have been frequently inspected and found to be fairly well kept.

281. Twenty-four samples of various food were submitted to the County Analyst, one of which, a sample of milk, was found to be deficient of 10 per cent. of its fat. The vendor was summoned and fined £5.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
22,680	17·9	9·7	0·35	57

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

282. Dr. THOMSON estimates that for statistical purposes the population has remained stationary, though he thinks it possible that the next Census will show some slight increase because since the last one was taken 130 new houses have been erected and only a few tenements demolished.

283. He records a very low birth-rate, 19·8, while the Death-rate, 11·7, is much below the average for the preceding ten years.

284. The Zymotic rate was nil, while the infantile death-rate was only about two-thirds of the average.

285. Referring to infectious disease, Dr. THOMSON says:—"There has been extremely little infectious disease, altogether only 7 cases were notified, viz.:—Scarlet Fever 5, Diphtheria 1, Erysipelas 1, all of which were removed to Hospital.

286. Referring to Phthisis, Dr. THOMSON says:—"Two cases only have been notified as occurring among persons attended by Poor Law Medical Officers and not in the Workhouse. It would probably be the best procedure for all concerned to endeavour to admit all such Poor Law cases to the Union Infirmary as their circumstances are such as to preclude proper means to prevent spread of the disease. The same thing may be said with truth of many of the working classes. Your Council have considered from time to time the erection of cottages for working men, and as a step in this direction the experiment might be tried of erecting one or two on sites outside the town suitable for Phthisis and letting these at low rents to families where there was a consumptive. The advantages would not only accrue to the invalid but to those about him, and any decrease that can be made in the actual number of cases of Phthisis among the poorer classes is practically a benefit to everyone, for Phthisis is essentially a pauperising disease, and its victims among the poor frequently come to be rate supported. If such cottages were built it would probably be a mistake to refuse them to tenants other than those for whom they were particularly intended; it would be better to have it understood that a Committee would consider any application for them, and award them according to the suitability of the applicant. It would develop in time that families where a consumptive was, would get a prior claim. In April last, I made a special Report to your Council on the requirements of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908, and on the Memorandum of the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board bearing on the subject of Tuberculosis and I have added this on an appendix to this Report."

287. Referring to water supply Dr. THOMSON says that he made analysis every three months and that no variation in quality was shown.

288. As regards slaughter-houses Dr. THOMSON calls attention to the question of establishing a Public Abattoir, and says:—"A study of the matter inclines one to think that an important trade as the meat purveying business is, might readily, by co-operation, institute a slaughtering establishment of its own to the general advantage."

289. Referring to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, he says:—"As previously reported, the housing of dairy cows in some instances needs improvement, and it would stimulate this if a sub-committee would visit a few which I would designate."

290. Referring to systematic inspection, Dr. THOMSON says:—"A very noticeable defect in the poorer class of cottages is the long time bedrooms are allowed to go without being whitened or re-papered. The reports I receive from the County Health Visitors endorse this."

"Garrick Court and some of the Bull Street Court property is probably the least sanitary in the town. Pig-keeping apparently is at present causing less nuisance than usual, as pigs are not so plentiful. To extend the distance within which pigs may be kept adjoining houses, would probably meet with less opposition now than heretofore.

"The Juvenile population about Shakespeare Street, Mansell Street and Great William Street will need an open air space to play in when the land to the north of those streets is built upon. The school children generally would be much benefited by a public gymnasium with baths. They bathe in the River in the summer and would bathe in the winter if there was opportunity."

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
8,310	19·8	11·7	NIL	66.

SUTTON COLDFIELD.

291. DR. BOSTOCK HILL reports an increase of population of 373, considerably less than that of late years.
292. The Birth-rate has fallen 0·7 per 1,000 below the previous lowest record, which was in 1908.
293. The death-rate has been a very satisfactory one, practically identical with that of the previous year, which was one of the lowest on record. It was 1 per 1,000 below the average of the past ten years.
294. Referring to Infant mortality, he describes this as fairly satisfactory, slightly higher than in 1903, and a good deal higher than in 1907. He considers that this figure was about normal.
295. Only 14 deaths were registered from the seven principal Zymotic diseases, namely—Scarlet Fever 3, Measles 4, Whooping Cough, 2, and Diarrhoea. 5.
296. No Smallpox was reported during the year, and the only disease that showed any tendency to become epidemic was Measles, and on this account six elementary schools were closed.
297. Sixty cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, compared with 63 in the previous year, and having regard to the present population, this must be considered as extremely satisfactory.
298. The case Mortality was the same as in the previous year.
299. There was a marked falling off in the incidence of Diphtheria, only 14 cases being notified, compared with 28 in the previous year, and the disease also was of such a mild type that none of the cases proved fatal. Two of them were imported into the Borough, and in another case importation was probable.
300. Referring to the action taken in dealing with this disease, he says:—"In every case not only was a careful inspection of the property made but the drains were tested, and in all cases proved to be satisfactory.

"Although the number of cases has not been so large, relatively a larger proportion have been verified by bacterial examination of swabs at the University under the County Council Scheme. This is a great advantage from every point of view, but it is obvious that it is most important that before a case is reported as free from infection, at least two 'negative' swabs should have been taken. In no other way is it possible to be sure that a case ceases to be infective, as it is now well-known that all symptoms may cease but that virulent germs may be found in the secretions of the nose and throat.

"When it is borne in mind that this degree of safety can be obtained without cost either to the patient, the private practitioner or the Borough, it is to be hoped that in the near future no case will be certified as free from infection and fit to associate with others till this simple precaution has been taken.

"I also desire to state how important it is in my opinion for it to be remembered that doses of anti-toxin are always available for the use of medical practitioners for patients who cannot afford its cost. During the year three practitioners have availed themselves of this free supply to the great benefit of their patients."

301. Only 4 cases of Typhoid Fever were notified, none of which proved fatal.
302. Phthisis was responsible for about the average number of deaths, namely 14. Referring to this he says:—"The same measures for endeavouring to limit this disease have been taken as in the past few years. In every case where Phthisis has been known to exist, the house

has been visited and a leaflet giving instructions as to the conduct of the patient has been left and explained, while in every case where a death has occurred the house as well as the belongings of the patient have been disinfected.

“Advantage has also been taken of the new Order of the Local Government Board causing a notification of cases of Phthisis by the Poor Law Medical Officers. It is strange that only one notification has been received. This was in a patient who left the Workhouse Infirmary and was visited, but returned quite shortly to the Infirmary, and about whom I have heard nothing further.”

303. Referring to sewerage and sewage disposal he quotes a Report from the Borough Surveyor showing that sewerage works for the Hill and Streetly Districts are now well in hand.

304. DR. BOSTOCK HILL describes this work as a considerable scheme and as one which for some considerable period has been the most urgent requirement of the Borough.

305. Referring to the removal of household refuse he says:—“I have for years inveighed against the system by means of which household refuse was allowed to remain in receptacles at so many houses in the Borough until owners or occupiers thought fit to have it removed. It is therefore a matter of satisfaction to me to be able to report that in one sense this bad and insanitary system has been put an end to. In the beginning of the second quarter arrangements were made by which the removal of refuse was undertaken by the Town Council and a rate of 2d. in the £ was made to cover the expense. This did not include the extreme outside portions of the borough, which are chiefly Rural, but applies exclusively to the populous portion of the Town. In this respect, however—at all events at the beginning—I am quite content, as those portions not included are quite agricultural and owing to the large area of the Borough are remote from the centre.

“During the year 17,328 ashpits and receptacles have been dealt with, of which 1,115 were emptied up to the end of April and 16,213 from that date to the end of the year. This of course, shows a considerable improvement, but when it is borne in mind that there are in the Borough 4,500 houses, the majority of which are in the area in which refuse removal is undertaken, it is obvious that on an average removal has taken place only about once every three months. This cannot, in any sense of the word having regard to modern experience of sanitary work be considered satisfactory. Such appears to be also the opinion of many ratepayers in the town, for no less than 116 letters complaining of non-removal have been received since the beginning of May. At present, therefore, I am compelled to consider what has been done during the year as somewhat in the nature of a commencement and not the establishment of a scheme satisfactory in a scientific sense and I feel it therefore necessary again to point out the importance of instituting a regular and systematic collection of household refuse, and thus bringing the Borough up to the level of similar communities.

“It is with satisfaction, too, that I am able to state that 25 old-fashioned privies have been converted into water-closets, so that the number existing in the populous part of the town is probably at the present time not more than twenty-five.

“I trust that the same pressure, which has been so effective in the past, will be used in the present year and that in a short time I shall be able to report that not a single midden ashpit remains in the town.

“I am also glad to report that sixteen of the waterless water-closets, that is, those without flushing cisterns, have been done away with and proper sanitary water-closets substituted. I am informed that there are still about forty of these in the Borough, and I am of opinion that the work to put these on a sanitary basis should be undertaken during the present year”

306. The Report deals with Slaughter-houses, Dairies and Cowsheds, New Streets and Buildings. It also gives in tabular form, the work done under the Factories and Workshops Act, and concludes with a table of meteorological observations taken in the Borough.

307. In conclusion he states that while the Borough is, generally speaking, in a very good sanitary condition, he considers that the following matters should be kept under observation.

- 1.—The carrying out of a scheme of systematic public scavenging in the real acceptance of the term.
- 2.—The abolition in the central wards of the remaining privy middens and waterless water-closets.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
21,325	17·06	9·61	0·65	101

WARWICK.

308. DR. TANGYE reports a Birth-rate of 21·9 per 1,000 the lowest on record for the district.

309. The Death-rate of 14·6 is exactly equal to the average for the previous ten years.

310. The rate of infant mortality is very satisfactory, being the lowest rate recorded in the previous ten years. Nearly half the deaths to infants were due to premature birth.

311. Referring to infectious disease, DR. TANGYE records that 2 deaths were due to Whooping Cough, 1 to Measles, 1 to Diphtheria, 1 to Scarlet Fever, and 1 to Diarrhœa, therefore the Zymotic death-rate was also very satisfactory.

312. Among other causes of death, 14 were due to Cancer, and 14 to Phthisis.

313. Only 56 notifications of infectious disease were received. DR. TANGYE says:—"The number of cases has shown a steady decline of late years, 162 being notified in 1905, 117 in 1907, and 79 in 1908. These 56 cases consisted of 23 cases of Diphtheria, 11 of Erysipelas, 19 of Scarlet Fever, 2 of Enteric, and 1 of Puerperal Fever.

No less than 40 of the 56 cases were removed to the Heathcote Hospital.

314. The eastern part of the Borough showed, as usual, the greatest number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, but even here there was no great prevalence.

315. One of the cases of Typhoid Fever occurred in a person just returned from Canada and therefore was an imported case.

316. The case of Puerperal Fever occurred in a patient who had been attended by a relative who was not in practice as a midwife.

317. Referring to Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1908, DR. TANGYE says:—"Twenty notifications of Phthisis occurring in poor patients were received from the Poor Law Medical Officers and the Master of the Workhouse. The cases to which they referred have been visited, the surroundings of the patients carefully inspected, and sanitary defects remedied. Where the patient continued to live at home, advice was given as to the proper disposal of sputum, the desirability of sleeping alone with the bedroom window open, and other points with a view to checking the danger of infection. Where the patient had died or been removed thorough disinfection of the house and bedding was carried out."

318. As regards the erection of new buildings and works of a public nature, the Borough Engineer submits the following details:—

"Plans for 11 new houses were submitted and approved, comparing with 9 in 1908, and 23 in 1907.

"Substantial paving improvement works have been completed in numerous streets, the cost being defrayed by a loan.

“The Emscote intercepting sewer has been freed from deposit and put into thorough repair, and means provided to prevent deposition, and to relieve undue pressure during storm.

“Plans have been prepared and submitted for the better drainage of the Charles Street and All Saints’ districts.

“The water supply has been adequate, and the pressure satisfactory.

“The mains and sewers have been systematically flushed and maintained in efficient order.

“The staff for the removal of domestic refuse has been augmented as occasion required, so as to secure more frequent removals, and the street scavenging has been still further improved.”

319. Appended is a Report of the Sanitary Inspector, who details the work done under the sale of Food and Drugs Acts, the Canal Boats Acts, and the Factory and Workshops Act, and also gives particulars of the inspection of slaughter-houses and of common lodging houses in the Borough.

320. He also states that two lots of decomposed fish were voluntarily surrendered and as the fishmongers called his attention to them, no proceedings were taken.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
12,430	21·9	14·6	0·48	59

RURAL DISTRICTS.

ALCESTER.

321. MR. B. S. BROWNE estimates the population of this district to be identical with what it has been the two previous years.
322. The Birth-rate is 1 per 1,000 less than last year and 2 per 1,000 below the average of the last ten years.
323. The Death-rate of 15·03 is almost the same as that of last year, but rather more than 1 per 1,000 above the average of the last ten years.
324. The Zymotic Death-rate has been particularly satisfactory, as only 2 deaths have been registered as due to the seven principal Zymotic diseases. One of these was caused by Measles and the other by Membranous Croup.
325. The rate of Infant Mortality is quite satisfactory, being 83·33 per 1,000 registered births, much lower than in the previous year, and slightly lower than the average of the past ten years. Fourteen of the deaths were due to premature birth, congenital defects and debility from birth.
326. The number of notifications of infectious diseases have been rather more than in the previous year, but on the whole satisfactory. Altogether 65 have been reported, namely:—Scarlet Fever 56, Diphtheria 4, Erysipelas 5.
327. The Scarlet Fever must have been mild in type as there was no death from it. All the cases were removed to the infectious hospital with the exception of three in one family, who lived in an isolated cottage some distance from the village of Studley. One family of five at Sambourne were infected from the first case being kept at home till peeling was noticed, the mother not having observed any rash, nor called in a doctor. In two instances the disease was introduced by visitors from Birmingham who came to Salford, and a family of five, also from Birmingham district, also developed the disease after a few days' stay at Bidford.
328. Illustrating the more modern method of dealing with Diphtheria now in vogue in this district, I may add that though only four cases of Diphtheria were notified, bacteriological examinations were made in cases of suspicious sore throats, including repeats from the same cause.
329. It is very satisfactory to note that not a single case of Typhoid Fever occurred during the year.
330. As regards Measles, Whooping Cough, and Diarrhœa, none of these diseases showed any marked prevalence.
331. Thirteen deaths were registered as due to Phthisis:—7 in the Alcester Sub-district and 6 in the part of the sub-district including Studley. The sanitary inspector visited and disinfected the houses where the deaths occurred, and instructed the occupants as to the cleansing of the premises.
332. Only one case of Phthisis of a poor person under the new regulations was received.
333. MR. BROWNE also reports that he prepared a Report in accordance with the Memorandum, on the subject issued by the Local Government Board, in relation to the measures to be taken against Tuberculosis.

334. Mr. BROWNE also reports that he made a systematic inspection of the district alone, and in company with the inspector.
335. Referring to Water supply he says:—"There have been no changes in the water supply of the district during the year. Twenty-five fresh connections have been made with the water mains at Studley to supply thirty-six houses.
- "I reported to you in November that the secretary of the Alcester Water Company had informed me that steps had been taken to prevent the waste of water complained of last year, and that these had proved effectual. That there is more water available through improved arrangements in the pumping and that improvements have been effected in the supply from one of the springs. From personal observation I am of opinion that these statements are correct. Nineteen samples of water have been submitted for analysis and sixteen have been condemned as unfit for use, all these being from wells in Studley."
336. He reports that the sewers at Alcester have been well flushed and that the automatic tanks are in good order. He also says:—"The sewers in Alcester have been extended along the Birmingham Road to take the drainage from several dwelling houses and a factory. The sewer at Studley has been extended along the Alcester Road and the sewers have on the whole worked well and received proper attention. The sewers at Bidford and Wilmcote have been properly flushed and attended to."
337. Mr. BROWNE also reports that much improvement has been effected in the method of scavenging at Studley, Bidford and Ipsley.
338. He also reports that the Bakehouses have, as a rule, been kept in a clean and satisfactory state, and that the Slaughter-houses, of which there are 11 in the District, though old structurally, are on the whole, clean and satisfactory.
339. The Report also deals with the work of the inspection of lodging houses, dairies and cowsheds and milk shops.
340. Mr. BROWNE also says that in the district the 8 factories and 88 workshops have been kept clean and in good condition and that the ventilation of some of them has been improved.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
11,400	22·28	15·03	0·17	83

ATHERSTONE.

341. Mr. MEARS estimates an increase of population of 278 on the previous year.
342. He records a Birth-rate of only 30·02, the lowest ever recorded. Of the 561 births, however, only 5 were illegitimate.
343. The Death-rate is satisfactory, being 12·2 compared with 13·06 in the previous year.
344. Sixty-seven deaths occurred in children under a year, giving a rate of infant mortality of 119, compared with 125 in the previous year. Of these 67 deaths, 12 were due to premature birth.
345. The number of cases notified under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act was 39 viz:—Scarlet Fever, 28; Diphtheria, 2; Typhoid Fever, 3; Erysipelas, 6. This is undoubtedly a very excellent record, though 2 out of the 3 cases of Typhoid Fever proved fatal.
346. Referring to scavenging, Mr. MEARS says:—"This seems to be satisfactory in Atherstone and Polesworth. In Hartshill I have heard a good many complaints."

347. He also calls attention to the fact that public scavenging ought to be established in Baddesley, especially considering the number of new houses erected.
348. As regards sewerage, Mr. MEARS reports that two short extensions have been made at Dordon, and says that all sewers have been periodically examined and that the disposal works are in good condition.
349. Referring to the Infectious Hospital, Mr. MEARS says:—"The present Infectious Hospital with the exception of the small ward, is in a very bad state and needs a good deal of repair, and as I pointed out in my last Report, the new line of the London and North-Western Railway being now much nearer the Hospital, it is becoming positively dangerous to occupy the premises; only the other day the nurse discovered a cinder on one of the beds which might easily have caused fire."
- "I recommended that a minimax fire extinguisher be at once placed there.
- "I certainly must call the attention of the District Council to the long delay in erecting the new Infectious Hospital. I see that in my Annual Report for 1903 I say: 'A site has been purchased for a new Infectious Hospital in Folly lane.' This site was afterwards exchanged for one in Whittington, in March, 1903, and I cannot understand why more progress has not been made in erecting it.
- "There is also in connection with this subject the question of a Steam Disinfector. At the present time I am sending all bedding, etc., after an infectious case to Nuneaton to be disinfected. This, if we get any serious epidemic, will entail a large expense. I am informed that in lieu of a Steam Disinfector there is some plan suggested of a kind of lethal chamber charged with disinfectants. This, I am sure is not practicable and is a plan which will not receive the consent of the Local Government Board. Formaline and SO_2 have no power of penetration for disinfecting bedding, mattresses, etc., and they must be disinfected by moist heat such as steam."
350. Referring to the parishes in detail, Mr. MEARS says:—"Of Polesworth, the sewerage works here I am glad to find will now shortly be started."
351. Appended to the Report, one from the Sanitary Inspector who states:—"During the past twelve months 25 privies have been converted into water-closets, and 9 additional water-closets provided."
352. The Inspector also reports:—"All new drainage has been thoroughly tested before being covered in."
353. Referring to public scavenging the Inspector says:—"The gradual provision of portable bins, which is being steadily proceeded with, is an improvement, as it ensures the weekly removal of house refuse."
354. In addition to the disinfection after Scarlet Fever and other infectious diseases, the Inspector reports that five houses were disinfected after deaths from Phthisis, 1 after a case of Puerperal Fever, and also 1 after a death from Cancer.
355. He also calls attention to the fact that during the year the very necessary step of licensing and registering the 25 slaughter-houses in the district has been undertaken.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
18,560	30.0	12.2	0.9	119

BRAILES.

356. DR. GEORGE FINDLAY estimates the population to have become reduced to 5,896.
357. The Birth-rate has shown a considerable increase and was 24·0 per 1,000 on the estimated population, with an average of 22·8 for the last ten years.
358. The Death-rate was somewhat higher than of late, namely, 17·0 and nearly 2·0 per 1,000 higher than the average of the past ten years.
359. Infant Mortality was equal to 77 per 1,000 births registered, and is considerably below the average of the last ten years.
360. As regards Zymotic Disease, only 2 deaths were reported, one due to Whooping Cough and one to Diarrhœa, giving the very low figure of 0·3 per 1,000.
361. Thirty-five notifications of infectious disease were received, as compared with 63 in the previous year. Diphtheria was responsible for 8 of these and compares with a figure of 20 for the preceding year. Referring to this DR. FINDLAY says:—"At Brailes, during the first eleven days of January, five cases in three different houses were notified, they were all due to personal infection, and were connected with the outbreak which began on December 24th, 1903, when to the end of that year, seven were notified in five different houses, as mentioned in my report for last year. This outbreak of Diphtheria thus involved 12 patients, all children. The diagnosis was confirmed by bacteriological examination. Anti-toxin was used in every case and all the children made satisfactory recoveries."
362. Only 20 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, representing seven distinct outbreaks. One of the outbreaks occurred at Stourton and DR. FINDLAY says:—"The first case occurred in a house where a previous case was nursed at home two years ago, and was undoubtedly due to clothing which had not been disinfected at that time."
363. Only one case of Typhoid Fever occurred and that in a lone farm house in Brailes parish.
364. He reports that there was a widespread outbreak of Whooping Cough at Tysoc during March and April, but that the district has been practically free from measles for two years.
365. There was no mortality from epidemic Diarrhœa, though 4 fatal cases of Enteritis and 1 of Gastritis were registered.
366. Only 2 deaths were reported as being due to Phthisis, the death-rate being the very low one of 0·3, much below the usual rate of the district.
367. The same remark applies to Cancer and Malignant Disease, only 5 deaths being registered from this class of disease, compared with 12 and 8 in the two previous years.
368. Referring to action taken to prevent the spread of disease in the district, DR. FINDLAY says:—"The Council have repaid the cost of the serum anti-toxin used by the medical men in the treatment of Diphtheria, and I am sure that this method of treatment not only benefits the patient, but also the general public, as the use of the anti-toxin shortens the disease and thus helps to prevent the spread of infection. The Bacteriological examinations, made at the the University of Birmingham, of swabs taken from suspected cases of Diphtheria, have been useful in confirming the diagnosis of doubtful first cases, and advantage has been taken of this in nearly all the outbreaks. The diagnosis of the one case of Enteric Fever was confirmed by the Widal's reaction. This test has on two occasions also been supplied to specimens sent, when the result has proved that the person was not suffering from Enteric Fever."

369. Referring to the use of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Dr. FINDLAY says:—"Although it is impossible to show from statistics that an isolation hospital diminishes the number of cases of Scarlet Fever in a district, owing to the irregular manner in which the disease appears, and sometimes spreads, still, I am sure that, considering the number of times the infection was brought into the district, there would have been a far greater spread of the disease if there had not been the means of promptly isolating those cases which could not be isolated at home. It is also curious how frequently when cases appear in comparatively lone houses, a history can be found that patients with Scarlet Fever had been nursed in these houses several years before, and there is ample evidence to prove that the infective germs of Scarlet Fever may remain alive, if kept quite dry for a very large number of years."
370. Dr. FINDLAY reports that he has in company with the inspector made house-to-house visits at Brailes, Tysoe, Stretton, Cherington, and Idlicote and says:—"On these inspections we find many of the usual and minor defects and nuisances. The great majority of these are abated when the attention of occupier or owner is called to them, either verbally or by letter, from the Sanitary Inspector. When, however, these defects are not attended to in a reasonable time on a second visit from the Inspector, the matters have been brought before the Council and further action taken. In this way we get a considerable amount of sanitary work carried out without trouble or friction. In making our house-to-house inspections we continue to take special notice of pantries. Even where the houses are fairly clean, these places are often very dirty, and food is kept in them close to dusty rubbish. I have tried to explain to these people the necessity of keeping their pantries clean, and allowing plenty of ventilation."
371. The Report deals with inspection of Dairies and Cowsheds, and states:—"At present there are 29 dairies and cowsheds on the register, which have all been visited and inspected. They are all fairly well kept, and it has only been necessary for the Council to issue one formal notice with regard to a nuisance which has now been abated."
372. Dr. FINDLAY further says:—"I think there are several more people in the district who should be on the register, and I would suggest that the Council send a notice to every person in the district known to keep cows, or dealing in milk in any way, drawing their attention to the necessity of being registered or of claiming exemption."
373. As regards Sanitary work completed, contemplated and required, Dr. FINDLAY reports that at Brailes, with the permission of the Council and the owner of the spring, a pipe has been laid from the main into the Parish Institute.
374. He reports that at Butlers Marston, Compton Wynyates, Halford, Honington and Idlicote, the water supply has been satisfactory. At Ilmington the water main has been extended and has proved to be a great convenience. The sewer has also been extended at Ilmington and the sewer ditches cleaned out. The same remark applies to the sewers at Oxhill and Whatcote. At Pillerton a public well has been cleaned out and a blocked sewer re-laid. At Little Cherington a new well has been sunk and the pump completed. The cause of the complaints about the water supply at Whichford has been discovered. The pipe laid to the village had become partly blocked at a collecting chamber. This has been remedied and there is now plenty of water.
375. Complaints have been made as to the scarcity of water at Long Compton. This is said to be due to the smallness of the main. A second main has already been laid as far as the first tap. Dr. FINDLAY says that he thinks it will be necessary to continue the new main as far as the second or third tap.
376. He also calls attention to the fact that the work of replacing the old drains with glazed pipes is still being carried out wherever the existing sewers become defective.

377. The Report is an excellent record of much good work, in a sanitary sense, done in a scattered district and one difficult to work.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
5,896	24·0	17·0	0·3	77

CASTLE BROMWICH.

378. Dr. BOSTOCK HILL estimates a small increase in the population, of which the bulk has taken place in the contributory part of Castle Bromwich.
379. The Birth-rate was considerably below the average of the previous ten years.
380. The Death-rate was a very satisfactory one, 9·5, practically identical with that of the previous year and considerably below the average of the previous ten years.
381. The rate of Infant Mortality was somewhat high; in fact it was not only higher than in the previous year, but considerably higher than the rate for the previous 10 years. Referring to this, he says:—"It would appear as possible that improper feeding was the chief factor in the increased mortality."
382. The number of notifications of Zymotic Disease was only 8, compared with 21 and 20 in the two previous years.
383. As regards non-notifiable disease, Measles apparently was prevalent, no less than 6 deaths being due to it, 5 of these being in children under 5 years of age. The outbreak was entirely connected with one school, and the school at Castle Bromwich was closed in consequence of it.
384. Two deaths were registered as due to Consumption, one being in a visitor to the district.
385. Particulars are given of the work done in keeping the water supply under observation.
386. Fifteen new houses were completed during the year and they were all supplied with tap water.
387. As regards sewerage and drainage, though no new sewers were laid during the year, flushing has been efficiently carried on and no stoppage such as has been notified in past years has occurred, and no specific complaint of nuisance from sewers has been received.
388. Referring to scavenging he says:—"It is with great pleasure that I report that the scavenging of Water Orton has been satisfactorily conducted. A new contract has been entered into on practically the same lines as the previous one, and although the removal hardly takes place as frequently as I should like, there is a marked improvement on what was the condition observed previous to the collection being carried on as a routine matter.
- "As regards Castle Bromwich, I have very much pleasure in stating that the recommendation I made in my last Annual Report has been adopted. First of all the inspector made a detailed inspection of every house in the parish, and as a result, presented a valuable Report to the Council, showing the work to be done and its estimated cost. As a result, a fortnightly system of scavenging was adopted in September, the cost of which will be equivalent to a 1½d. Rate on the Parish."
389. As regards Cowsheds and Dairies, the inspector reports that 72 inspections were made and 30 nuisances which he discovered he was able to get abated.
390. He calls attention to the fewer number of children successfully vaccinated than in the past.

391. Referring to general sanitary work he says:—"The work done during the year has been greater in amount and better in effect than in any year with which I have been connected with the district. There can be no doubt about it that all parts of the district have been well looked after, and the inspector has carried out his duties with great assiduity and to my entire satisfaction."

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
3,050	20.33	9.51	1.96	145

COVENTRY.

392. MR. ILIFFE reports that throughout the year the health of the district has been fairly good. He says:—"There have been a few cases of Diphtheria and septic sore throats. In some instances the drains were imperfect, in others an accumulation of refuse material required more frequent removal."

393. He further says:—"The drainage of the village of Keresley, which ran into a filtration chamber, has caused the water course running through fields into pits and then on to Foleshill, to become polluted and not fit for cattle to drink. The Foleshill Authority has this matter in hand and I have no doubt will remedy it in the near future."

394. MR. ILIFFE states also that the sewage farm of the City of Coventry at Baginton, during certain conditions of atmosphere and wind, has caused considerable unpleasantness and sore throats in Whitley and the district around. He considers that the land is sewage-logged, and in his opinion, has gone beyond a nuisance, and has assumed a form and character dangerous to health.

395. The Report has appended to it one from the Inspector of Nuisances, which details the work that has been carried out.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
600	16.6	11.6	3.3	NIL

FARNBOROUGH.

396. DR. JOHNS reports identical Birth and Death-rates of 11.68.

397. Three cases of Scarlatina were reported during the year.

398. The only other infectious disease reported appears to have been Measles.

399. DR. JOHNS says:—"I have from time to time visited the villages in the district and am able to report that the district is in a satisfactory condition."

400. He reports that there are no factories in the district, and that the water supply has been satisfactory throughout the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
1,540	11.68	11.68	NIL	55.

FOLESHILL.

401. DR. JOHN ORTON considers that the population has increased by 223.

402. The Birth-rate for the year was a high one, namely 36.9. Although not quite so high as in the previous year, it is higher than any other of the previous ten years.

403. The Death-rate, though slightly lower than last year is still somewhat high, and higher than the average of the previous ten years.
404. The rate of infant mortality is also somewhat high, though slightly lower than last year, but this again is lower than the average of the last ten years.
405. As regards the Zymotic death-rate, this was 2·6, compared with 1·5 in the previous year, and 2·0 in 1907. Altogether, 52 deaths were caused by Zymotic disease, namely:—Scarlet Fever, 5; Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, 8; Enteric Fever, 1; Measles 2; Whooping Cough, 13; Epidemic Diarrhœa, 23.
406. No case of Smallpox was reported during the year.
407. Scarlet Fever was very prevalent, the prevalence coinciding with that in the City of Coventry in the early part of the year. The disease was chiefly prevalent in the Foleshill portion of the district, 100 cases occurring here. Of the 170 cases no less than 153 were removed to Hospital. The mortality was comparatively light, 5 deaths only occurring in the 170 cases.
408. Speaking of Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, he reports that 27 cases were notified with 8 deaths. Ten of the cases occurred in Bedworth, 6 in Binley, 5 in Exhall and 6 in Foleshill. Anti-Diphtheritic Serum supplied by the Council, was used with great advantage, while DR. ORTON says that the County Council Scheme for bacterial examination was taken advantage of.
409. Only two cases of Typhoid Fever were notified and this is one of the most gratifying features of the Report.
410. Speaking of Puerperal Fever he says:—"I am pleased to record that no case of this came under notice and no doubt the Midwives Act has contributed greatly to increased diminution of Puerperal infection."
411. As regards Tuberculosis, DR. ORTON records that 18 deaths were registered under the heading of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and other Tubercular Diseases. This number appears to be somewhere about the average.
412. He records the fact that under the new compulsory notification of pauper cases of Phthisis, two were notified—one inhabited a canal boat at Hawkesbury Stop. This latter case was removed to the Workhouse Infirmary.
413. DR. ORTON says:—"Upon my Report on the first case, your Council sanctioned the purchase of sputum cups, for the use of patients, which were to be supplied to them, together with disinfectant fluid, with directions for use. Pamphlets, entitled 'Hints for the Prevention of Consumption' were also obtained from the County Medical Officer of Health for distribution, and your Council in addition brought to the notice of the County Council the desirability of providing some sanatorium where the patients suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis could receive treatment. Subsequently acting upon a suggestion from the County Council, the Joint Board of the Nuneaton and Foleshill Smallpox Hospital carefully considered the practicability of making the Hospital available for consumptive patients, but came to the conclusion that the scheme could not be carried out."
414. Whooping Cough appears to have been very prevalent, 11 deaths being caused by it in the first half of the year.
415. The Isolation Hospital was much used, no less than 262 cases being treated there.
416. The Report deals with the closure of schools and states that they were disinfected after closure, according to the regulations of the Warwickshire County Council.

417. As regards water supply, that of Bedworth is reported to have been good and sufficient, only owing to the developments of the town, efforts have had to be made to obtain an additional supply. This is mainly owing to the larger consumption of water brought about by the substitution of water closets, instead of the old privy and midden system.

418. At Foleshill the water supply is reported to have been good, and at Exhall the North Warwickshire Company have carried out a large extension of their mains in this direction.

419. The Report states, with reference to Walsgrave, "Two or three localities in this parish are but inadequately served by means of wells, and the matter will no doubt entail attention in the future, in order to provide water for the parish which is very rapidly increasing."

420. Referring to sewage works, DR. ORTON says:—"Practically the whole of the houses in the Foleshill parish that can reasonably be connected with the main sewers have been so connected therewith. During the year, plans and estimates have been prepared, and a Local Government Board Inquiry held, with a view to providing sewers in other portions of the district not included in the original scheme, and at the present time the work is in hand and includes:—a top sewer at Aldermans Green, provision of sewer for Rowley Green, extension of sewer at Longford, to new houses built by the side of the main road, and extension of sewer at Bell Green in the parish of Foleshill. In the Bedworth parish it has been found necessary to make several extensions, especially in the yards and courts owned by separate owners, where an old sewer, discharging either into open ditches or rain water drains, previously existed, notably, Foster's yard, Congreave Square, Spitalfields, etc., and the extension of the sewer to new houses in Smorrell Lane. This work is also in hand and when complete, and water-closets substituted for the ash-pits and privies at present existing in these congested areas, should be greatly beneficial to the health of the people occupying these houses.

"Negotiations have also been going on between the Corporation and the District Council, with a view to the houses in the latter's area being allowed to connect up with the City Sewers, and it is to be hoped that the matter will shortly be satisfactorily settled.

"Several important improvements have been carried out with regard to the drainage of the parish of Binley.

"KERESLEY.—Serious complaints having been made by the Coventry Rural Council, as to the character of the effluent discharged into their area at Mr. Sleith's farm, the matter of improvement was thoroughly gone into by a small committee appointed by your Council, together with the Surveyor and myself, when it was found that during the early part of each week, the tanks were unable to deal with the large amount of laundry waste discharged over them, and on the County Medical Officer of Health's recommendation, a scheme was drawn out, entailing the acquisition of land for sewerage irrigation and purification. Your Surveyor and myself accordingly waited upon the owner, in order to lay the scheme before him, and to obtain from him the necessary land. This matter has not yet been satisfactorily arranged."

421. Scavenging is reported to have been satisfactorily carried out in Bedworth, but not so satisfactorily at Foleshill, but an improvement was effected in the last few months of the year.

422. DR. ORTON calls attention to the Report of the Inspector of Nuisances as to the necessity of some system of scavenging being adopted in Exhall parish.

423. Referring to Dairies and Cowsheds, DR. ORTON says:—"Your Inspector and myself made a survey of these during the summer months, and we were pleased to note the very great improvement in the cleanliness, ventilation, and general up-keep of the Cowsheds. The Dairies were very satisfactory, with but one exception, where the conditions were most insanitary. Notice was served upon the landlord. The tenant has left, and the dairy has been abolished."

424. The new burial ground for Foleshill parish has been opened during the year. DR. ORTON says:—"This cemetery was rendered necessary by the water-logging of the ground of the parish church."

425. Appended to the Report, is one from the Inspector of Nuisances, giving a very lucid and complete account of the work done in his department.

426. He reports that on one occasion, from information he received from the police at Bedworth, he visited the market place on Saturday night, and found on one of the stalls a quantity of beef and mutton—67 pieces in all—which he seized, and afterwards destroyed by a Magistrates' order. The man to whom it belonged was fined £5 and £2 19s. 6d. costs.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
19,519	36.9	16.0	2.6	127

MONKS KIRBY.

427. DR. O'CONNOR reports a decrease in population and estimates the Birth-rate to have been the very low one of 17.4.

428. The Death-rate was fairly satisfactory, namely 12.0, but considerably higher than in the previous year.

429. There was no mortality from the seven principle Zymotic diseases, and the infant mortality was very satisfactory, namely 76.

430. Two deaths occurred from Consumption.

431. Only 3 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year, namely Scarlet Fever, two of which occurred at Pailton, and one at Stretton, this latter doubtless imported from Brinklow.

432. Towards the close of November the prevalence of Whooping Cough at Pailton necessitated school closure.

433. DR. O'CONNOR deals fully with the question of disinfection and says:—"This is carried out as a matter of routine after all ascertained cases of notifiable disease except Erysipelas. The method employed is spraying with a two per cent. solution of formaline supplemented by formaline fumigation. I advocate the issue of 'disinfectant' soap, with instructions to scrub floors, woodwork and usually furniture.

"The most important articles to disinfect are the patients clothing and bedding, and for this purpose we have to rely on boiling, washing, spraying and the steeping of articles in disinfectant solution. There is real need in this, as in most of the Leicestershire and Rutland combined districts, for an efficient system of steam disinfection. This will doubtless, however, be available on completion of the Joint Isolation Hospital.

"The importance, too, of thorough cleansing, stripping of wall paper and limewashing cannot be over estimated, and I would urge that this be done more frequently and systematically than heretofore. No infected house which is in any way dirty, should be allowed to pass uncleansed.

"The part which house-flies play in the spread of infection, is now claiming especial attention, and I propose during the coming summer to issue formaline solution for the purpose of destroying them in infected rooms. It cannot be too widely known that a few ounces

of a two per cent. solution of formaline placed in a large saucer suffices to kill most of the flies in a room within forty-eight hours. The flies die chiefly on the floor, from which they should of course be carefully swept."

434. He reports that the 14 Dairies and Cowsheds on the Register have been kept under strict observation.

435. Four houses were condemned as unfit for human habitation. Referring to this Dr. O'CONNOR says:—"The effective administration of section 17 of the Housing and Town Planning Act will involve such a considerable extension of my official duties that I shall find it more difficult than ever to dispense with systematic clerical assistance. If records are to be diligently kept and correspondence properly attended to, there is already in these Combined Districts ample and adequate work for a Medical Officer's clerk working full time."

436. DR. O'CONNOR also refers to the sanitary supervision of public elementary schools, and says:—"In order to minimize, or mitigate that gravest of administrative errors, overlapping, a satisfactory working arrangement has been arrived at between the County and District Medical Officers of Health by virtue of which our respective duties as regards supervision of infectious disease among school children are, in so far as is practicable, welded and unified. The recently issued memorandum of the Board of Education was carefully considered at a meeting of Warwickshire Medical Officers of Health which I attended towards the close of the year.

437. As regards general sanitation of the district, Dr. O'CONNOR calls attention to the desirability of appointing a public scavenger of night soil and refuse for the parish of Pailton. He says:—"In the course of house-to-house inspections, which I have from time to time made in this parish I came upon a number of cases of insanitation which cannot be efficiently dealt with unless or until a scavenger is appointed."

438. He also suggests that the following sections of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, be adopted.

Part II.—Section 25, and such other sections as may be advised by your surveyor.

Part III.—Sections 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 44, 45, 48, 49, and 50.

Part IV.—The whole.

Part V.—Section 69.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
1,490	17·4	12·0	NIL	76

NUNEATON.

439. DR. WOOD estimates the population to have increased to 2,385, the population of Arley alone having been found to be 1,000.

440. The Birth-rate was very satisfactory, namely 31·8 per 1,000.

441. The Death-rate was higher than last year, namely 14·2 compared with 13·9.

442. The rate of infant mortality is not very satisfactory, being as high as 185 per 1,000 births, and is the highest rate for the past eight years. Twelve of the deaths occurred at Arley. Four of the deaths were of twins of premature and feeble birth. Five others were due to congenital disease. DR. WOOD says:—"In nine cases death appeared to be due to inherent weakness of the child and death had occurred before a knowledge of the birth came to

the Sanitary Authority. Carelessness of the parents does not seem to have been a factor in the results except perhaps in two cases. The midwife in the district, although untrained, is satisfactory. I have to thank Miss Chorlton, the Health Visitor, for help in investigating the cases, and have arranged to let her have monthly lists of the births at Arley."

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
2,385	31·8	14·2	0·83	185

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

443. DR. THOMSON estimates the population to be the same as in the previous year.
444. The Birth-rate was 21·6 practically identical with that of last year.
445. The Death-rate was 1·0 per 1,000 higher than in the previous year, namely 15·1.
446. The rate of infant mortality was very satisfactory, being at the rate of only 52 per 1,000 births registered.
447. Referring to the question of infant mortality, DR. THOMSON says:—"This rate has been low for years, and probably is due in some measure to the fact that as fewer children are born, those that are produced are more valued and better cared for. One hears it sometimes pessimistically argued that the present day methods of improving the welfare of children are only calculated to prolong the existence of the 'unfit' and thus to eventually deteriorate the race. Such a contention overlooks the real result which follows in a population where child-life has an unfair chance of existence, as may be seen in the slums of some large towns. The real result is that a large proportion of what might be termed 'the unfit' survive the ordeal of their infant term of existence and pass on the inheritance of unfitness to their offspring. The much hackneyed phrase 'survival of the fittest' might be applicable to a hypothetical race where the weakling inevitably succumbed and did not propagate."
448. The district was very free from infectious disease, the only slight outbreak being one of Diphtheria in Preston Baggot, and with the exception of a death from Puerperal Fever there was no death from Zymotic disease, though two occurred from Measles.
449. Thirteen cases only of Scarlet Fever were notified and referring to this DR. THOMSON says:—"The infection seems to have come to that neighbourhood from Tanworth which adjoins the Stratford Rural District. It is difficult to say at present if this outbreak is checked (Jan. 21st). The means I have taken to check the epidemic are to remove all children suffering from the disease to Hospital, unless I am satisfied that they can be isolated at home, and to personally see any suspected case. At my request the County Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Bostock Hill), allowed one of the Lady Health Visitors to visit Ullenhall and Henley, as I consider it acts as a considerable deterrent to the concealment of cases if it is known that a health visitor may turn up at any time. The schools remain open but I have not suggested that pressure be brought to bear on absentees if absent from fear of infection."
450. Eight cases of Diphtheria at Preston Bagot. The school was closed for two weeks only and well cleaned.
451. DR. THOMSON deals with the question of sewage disposal at Henley-in-Arden and Wootton Waven and says the scheme of combination of the two places for disposal works south of Wootton Waven has been delayed by circumstances which could not be obviated, but that the prospect seems good for it to be ultimately carried out, and probably soon.
- Speaking of Claverdon he says:—"At Claverdon the question has arisen whether to arrange for the disposal of a small amount of sewage which at present constitutes a nuisance, or to systematically drain the village and take in this small amount and install a sewage disposal

works for the whole village. The whole matter is not one that calls for immediate action, but it is one that should be settled by careful consideration during the coming year. And happily for the welfare of Claverdon there seems an unanimous wish in the village that what ever really ought to be done, should be done: when this is the case the results are likely to turn out well."

452. Referring to Kineton sewage disposal works, Dr. THOMSON says:—"In the course of the year there has been a complaint made that these give rise to nuisance at times and the matter has been investigated thoroughly by Messrs. Willcox and Raikes, who constructed the works and have reported on them to your Council. I am satisfied there is no injury to the Public Health likely to arise from the works. At your suggestion I made an inspection of the stream into which this effluent discharges, and found that this water course is particularly free from evidence of imperfectly purified sewage both in the immediate neighbourhood of Kineton and for miles below that village. During the months of July and August next will be the opportunity to decide if the alleged nuisance is abated—probably a dense clump of evergreen trees planted about the works would assist by preventing the wind sweeping over them."

453. Referring to Wellesbourne sewage and sewage disposal Dr. THOMSON says:—"This long debated scheme is now about to be carried out and will bring this neighbourhood into line in sanitation with the remainder of the district. The contention made that the stream which runs through Walton and Wellesbourne is sewage polluted before it reaches these villages. I have disproved by examination throughout its whole course. Beyond a small amount in its head waters miles away from Walton, no sewage reaches it and it is a clear stream as far as Walton.

"The argument in favour of deferring this scheme, that a complete revolution in methods of sewage disposal may readily occur in the near future, is not borne out by a study of the Report of the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal, which is a summary of the most recent knowledge on the subject."

454. He reports that regular analyses of the public water supplies of the district have been made and no alteration in the quality of any of them were found.

455. He reports favourably of the condition of the Dairies and Cowsheds and Milkshops, but states that in many cases manure is stacked too near the cattle sheds, and that owing to some of them being deficient as regards lighting, the cleansing of cows' udders cannot be properly done.

456. As regards scavenging, he says:—"At Wellesbourne this work during the past year was very clearly not being efficiently carried out."

457. As regards the Housing of the Working classes, Dr. THOMSON says:—"At Kineton the premises formerly reported upon as unsatisfactory are improved and this is more satisfactory than their condemnation and pulling down would have been. During the year I have not certified any property under the Act as unfit for habitation, and the more efficiently house property is inspected the less chance there is of any of it getting into such dis-repair as to require this.

"In an instance at Kineton recently your Bye-Laws were incapable of preventing a new building obstructing the lighting and air space of an adjacent building."

458. Dr. THOMSON summarises the recently issued memorandum on infectious disease at schools, at some length, and concludes his Report by stating that as regards Tuberculosis (Pulmonary), the death-rate of the district is a fraction below the average of Warwickshire as it should be in a rural population.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
10,589	21·6	15·1	0·28	52

TAMWORTH.

459. DR. FAUSSET estimates the population for the year to be 14,618.
460. The Birth-rate was a good one, namely 31·7, lower than that of last year, which was, however, much above the average.
461. The Death-rate was also satisfactory, considerably lower than that of the previous year.
462. Referring to infant mortality, this is much more satisfactory than in the past. Of the 45 deaths occurring in children under a year, 16 were of infants who died within four weeks of birth and 11 of them died within a week of birth. Four of the deaths were due to Whooping Cough. The figure for infant mortality was 93 per 1,000 births, the lowest reported for a period of ten years.
463. Ten deaths were registered from Zymotic diseases, 7 from Whooping Cough, 2 from Diphtheria and 1 from Diarrhœa.
464. As regards Scarlet Fever, though there was no death registered from this disease, 85 cases were notified, a figure rather higher than in the previous year. The cases were confined to the populous parishes of Bolehall and Glascote, Wilnecote, Kingsbury, Amington and Shuttington. Sixty-three of the cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital.
465. Thirteen cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, compared with 16 in the previous year. In June two of the assistant teachers at Kingsbury school and one of the scholars were admitted to the Isolation Hospital. The epidemic progressed slowly, chiefly in Kingsbury parish. Of the 13 cases notified, 2 proved fatal. Swabs were taken of the throat secretion of suspicious cases, possible contacts, and others for bacteriological examination.
466. Measles produced no fatality though it was prevalent in the parish of Amington in November and December.
467. Whooping Cough was particularly fatal, causing 7 deaths altogether, 4 of these in the parishes of Bolehall and Glascote, and one in each of the parishes of Kingsbury, Shuttington and Wilnecote.
468. Epidemic influenza was also said to be very prevalent and 3 fatal cases were registered.
469. Only two schools were closed during the year owing to the prevalence of infectious disease namely, Kingsbury and Amington, the former for Whooping Cough and Mumps. and the latter for Measles and Mumps.
470. The Report deals with the Sanitary improvements effected in the constituent parishes, and mentions *inter alia* that at Kingsbury frequent inspections took place of house and cottage property with a view to the detection and prevention of the spread of infectious disease the prevention of overcrowding, the carrying out of various structural improvements, and the removal of any insanitary conditions.
471. The sewage tank at Woodlands was cleansed, and an offensive ditch at Edge Hill was cleaned out.
472. During the year, the Isolation Hospital was almost exclusively used for the isolation and treatment of Scarlet Fever. Referring to this, DR. FAUSSET says:—"The accommodation at the second block is not sufficient when there are many cases of Scarlet Fever coming from both Rural and Urban Districts at the same time, and when there are fewer cases, it serves as a much needed block for the convalescents to occupy, previous to their discharge and return

to their homes. In order to minimise the risk of treating both these diseases in such a limited space, and without observation or convalescent wards, the question of providing more accommodation than there is at present, is one which will require your serious consideration."

473. He also reports that arrangements have been made locally for keeping the Well-Barn Cottage at Hurleston aired and in readiness for the reception of any case of Smallpox occurring in either district.

474. As regards water supply, it is stated that the parishes of Amington and Stonydelph, Bolehall and Glascote, and Wilnecote and Castle Liberty, derive a plentiful supply of wholesome water from the Tamworth and District Water Works, and part of Shuttington and the hamlet of Dosthill in the parish of Kingsbury by arrangement are supplied from the same source. The village of Kingsbury and the hamlet of Bodymore Heath, Cliff Coton, and Halloughton are supplied by gravitation from the reservoir fed by the Dumble springs. Hurley, Hurley Common, Wood End, Edge Hill and Whateley are supplied with water by arrangement with the Dugdale Trustees from their well at Baddesley. In reference to this DR. FAUSSET says:—"With regard to this supply complaints were made by private householders and other consumers, of its unfitness for drinking, cooking, or domestic purposes, the water being of a reddish ochry colour, due to the quantity of suspended matter contained in it and on being allowed to stand a large amount of sediment was deposited. Samples of this water submitted for your inspection, fully justified the grounds of complaint. A letter addressed to your Council was received from the Kingsbury parish Council, also drawing attention to the dirty colour of the water, and to the complaints of the householders and your clerk was directed to communicate with the Baddesley Colliery Company and draw their attention to the matter. It was subsequently decided to join with the Atherstone Rural District Council, who were also receiving water from the same well, with a view to obtaining such an improvement in the water as would render it a pure and wholesome supply."

475. At Middleton the water is pumped by a windmill into a reservoir, and by gravitation supplies two farm-houses and several cottages. The villages of Austrey, Newton Regis and Noman's Heath depend on wells, some of which are of a good depth.

476. DR. FAUSSET says:—"An extension of the water main is required for the purposes of supplying Broomycroft farm, and five cottages at the Bottom Lock, Bodymoor Heath."

477. As regards sewerage and sewage disposal, DR. FAUSSET says:—"Great progress has been made during the year in carrying out the new scheme of sewerage. As previously reported the sewers in Bolehall and Glascote were completed some time ago, and the same can now be said as regards those at Wilnecote and Fazeley, which were completed during the past year."

"As regards the Joint Sewage Disposal Scheme in conjunction with the Borough of Tamworth, nearly all the work of construction has been carried out, the outfall sewer has been completed, the rising main laid, the pumping station built, the machinery is in course of erection, the outfall works, tanks, and filters are constructed, and the filling up of the filter beds will be commenced at an early date."

"It is anticipated that these works will be in full working order in the course of the next few months."

478. The Report also gives a description of the Kingsbury sewerage scheme, which is already in operation, and to which I have already referred.

479. The Report also records that the injunction granted in the case of the Attorney General v. Birmingham Tame and Rea District Drainage Board, was removed on the 19th November, 1909, by the Court of Appeal, on the Report of Sir William Ramsey.

480. DR. FAUSSET also records that the erection of new houses and cottages has been fully maintained. He says:—"Being mostly in a rural or semi-urban district there is ample space

about the dwellings, and not much difficulty about the water supply, but the question of house drainage, where there is no sewer in the vicinity and houses continue to be built, is one which will have to be dealt with, more especially in the neighbourhoods of Bolehall and Amington, and Islington, Hurley and Hurley Common, at an early date.

481. He also records that the Bye-laws Committee have submitted a draft of new Bye-laws to the Local Government Board.

482. DR. FAUSSET refers to Pulmonary Tuberculosis as follows:—"Seven cases of Pulmonary Phthisis were notified during the year, all in the Warwickshire portion of the district. Six deaths from this disease occurred, two of which had not been notified, and including one notified the previous year, one case left the district and one was admitted into the Tamworth Workhouse Infirmary, with a view to his being sent to a Sanatorium. Voluntary Notification has been in force in the district for the last three years, and is fairly satisfactory in its working. Some supervision can be exercised over the affected cases, and leaflets containing hints as to the best way of fighting the disease, and for its prevention in other members of the family have been supplied, and also parchment sputum cups. Consumption is a germ disease, and highly infectious, the person suffering from it being a source of danger to those with whom he is brought in contact, more especially in the later stages of the disease, and under unsuitable surroundings.

"It is then a matter of the highest importance that every means should have been already provided, and all arrangements made by those who are responsible for the health of the district, so as to afford every facility for the cure by early treatment at a Sanatorium of any such case when once the presence of the disease is recognised, and at the same time so far as may be necessary, provision made for the support of any who may have previously been depending upon the efforts of the wage-earner. The houses and cottages in which deaths from this malady have resulted were disinfected, and the walls limewashed and renovated, and the premises thoroughly cleansed, the cost being as usual divided between the owner of the property and your Council."

483. He commends the usefulness of the County Council scheme for bacteriological examination in cases of Diphtheria, Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Enteric Fever.

484. He reports also as to the work done in the supervision of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops.

485. Referring to the Medical Inspection of school children, he says that the Administrative Provisions Act, 1907, is proving a most advantageous one as a means for the detection of various defects both mental and physical, and of some of the diseases to which children of school age are liable, and for the promotion of their health, and is indirectly a means of increasing the interest which parents should take in the welfare of their children and in the hygiene of the homes.

486. Under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, two cases were dealt with and the houses made reasonably fit, and another case is being dealt with by the committee.

487. Referring to the removal of house refuse he says:—"As regards the parish of Amington and Stonydelph, considerable difficulty has been experienced in having the contents of the privy middens and ashpits removed regularly, this duty devolving on the owner and occupier, and in consequence I consider that the time has arrived when application should be made to the Local Government Board for urban powers to enable the Council to undertake this work."

488. The slaughter-houses were inspected and cleansed and lime-washed periodically.

489. No carcases or parts of carcases have been condemned for Tuberculosis.

490. Referring to the work of the County Council Health Visitor in the neighbourhood, DR. FAUSSET says:—"Much useful and valuable work has been accomplished in the Warwickshire portion of the district by Miss Morrison, Health Visitor, School Nurse, and Inspector of Midwives, for the County of Warwick, by visiting and advising mothers on matters connected with the health of their families, including the proper feeding and management of infants and young children, and the cleanliness of the homes. Many of them require practical sympathy in their constant struggles against adverse condition and poverty, due in some instances to want of thrift but often to inability to obtain regular work or to want of suitable employment. Useful information has also been received from the head teachers and school attendance officers. The administration of the Midwives Act, as carried out in both portions of the district, is exercising a wholesome influence—towards the preservation of life, and the reduction of infant mortality."

491. In conclusion, he says that there are at least five important questions requiring careful attention during the present year, viz.:—

1.—The carrying out of the remainder of the scheme for dealing with the weirs.

2.—The carrying to a completion of the new scheme of sewerage for the parishes of Bolehall and Glascote, Wilnecote and Castle Liberty, Fazeley and parts of the parishes of Wigginton and Amington and Stonydelph, and in conjunction with the Borough of Tamworth, of a scheme of sewage disposal for the parishes and for the Borough of Tamworth.

3.—The carrying out of the new scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for Wood End, and the new sewer at Dosthill in the parish of Kingsbury.

4.—The continuation of the measures already undertaken with regard to the prevention of pollution of the River Tame.

5.—The revision of the Bye-laws.

492. The Report is very full and is an excellent record of sanitary work well done. Appended to it is one from the Sanitary Inspector whose work appears to have been very satisfactorily done.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
11,618	31·7	11·9	0·68	93

RURAL DISTRICTS IN THE MID-WARWICKSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICT, INCLUDING
MERIDEN, RUGBY, SOLIHULL, SOUTHAM AND WARWICK.

MERIDEN.

493. DR. TANGYE estimates the population to have slightly increased during the year.
494. The Birth-rate is slightly above that of the previous year.
495. The Death-rate is identical with that for 1908, but slightly above the average of the past ten years.
496. The rate of infant mortality was particularly satisfactory, being only 52 per 1,000 registered births. This is the lowest infant mortality rate on record for the district.
497. Referring to the causes of death, he says 2 were due to Measles, 2 to Whooping Cough, and 4 to Diphtheria but that there were no deaths registered as due to Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever or Diarrhœa. The rate for Zymotic disease was therefore quite satisfactory.
498. Only 28 cases of infectious disease were notified, compared with 65 in the previous year and being the lowest total recorded for the district. The causes were as follows:—Diphtheria 9; Scarlet Fever, 12; and Erysipelas, 7.
499. One case of Phthisis in a poor person was notified under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908. This case was an inmate of the Meriden Workhouse.

Appended to the Report is that of the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor which shows that very excellent work was done in the way of abating nuisances, the maintenance of a pure water supply, inspection of slaughter-houses and butcher's shops and the carrying out of the Factory and Workshops Act.

RUGBY.

500. DR. TANGYE estimates a slight increase of population, and records the lowest Birth-rate on record for the district, 4·6 per 1,000 lower than in 1908.
501. The Death-rate was fairly satisfactory, higher than in the two previous years, but slightly below the average of the ten previous years.
502. The Infant Mortality was quite satisfactory and much below the average of the previous ten years. Of the 35 infant deaths, 10 were due to Pneumonia and Bronchitis, 9 to premature birth, and 3 to Diarrhœa.
503. The Zymotic death-rate was satisfactory, being 0·59.
504. Thirteen deaths were due to Phthisis and 19 to Cancer.
505. Only 35 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year, the same number as in 1908. These consisted of:—Scarlet Fever, 7; Diphtheria, 18; Typhoid Fever, 4; Erysipelas, 5; and 1 of Puerperal Fever.
506. Of the four cases of Typhoid Fever, one occurred in the case of a travelling showman, at Long Lawford, and the three others in one house at New Bilton. The drains and sanitary accommodation of this house were found to be most unsatisfactory and have since been remedied,

507. Two notifications were received under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1903.

508. Referring to new buildings and works of a public nature, DR. TANGYE quotes the Report of MR. WILLARD, the Surveyor, as follows:—"Sewers.—All the sewers in the district under my control are working satisfactorily (Old Bilton excepted). New sewerage and sewage disposal works have been carried out at New Bilton. Plans have been submitted to the Local Government Board for new sewerage at Old Bilton on the London Road. A new sewer has been laid.

"PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS), REGULATIONS, 1908.—Only two notifications under these Regulations have been received during the year; in each case the patient was visited, an inspection of the general sanitary condition of the houses was made, and advice given on such points as disposal of sputum and the desirability of the patients sleeping alone with windows open, etc. There are no doubt more cases of Pthisis in poor patients which should be notified under these regulations, and it is a matter of regret that more notifications have not been received, so that more extended action against Phthisis might be possible."

509. The Report of the Sanitary Inspector is appended, which shows the work done in the way of improved sanitation of houses and drainage, and records that 33 samples of food and Drugs were taken and submitted by him for analyses under the Food and Drugs Act.

510. The Report also states that all the slaughter-houses were inspected and found to be in a sanitary state. Nearly the whole of a beef carcase, the whole carcase of a pig, and a box of fish, were condemned and destroyed as unfit for food.

511. The Dairies and Cowsheds were also inspected and with few exceptions found fairly well kept. Ten new places were registered during the year. The number of persons now registered is 92.

512. Legal proceedings were taken on a sample of adulterated milk, and also in a case of bad meat. Fines of £5 and £2 respectively, with costs, being imposed.

SOLIHULL.

513. DR. TANGYE estimates a slight increase in the population of this district

514. The Birth-rate was 1·4 below the average for the previous ten years.

515. The Death-rate slightly lower than for the previous year, was higher than the average for the ten previous years.

516. The Infant Mortality was quite satisfactory, being at the rate of 75 per 1,000 births.

517. Two deaths were due to Scarlet Fever, and nine to Diphtheria,—3 at Solihull, 3 at Knowle, and 1 each at Chessets Wood, Bentley Heath and Shirley.

518. DR. TANGYE says:—"The cases which occurred at Knowle, Chessets Wood, and Bentley Heath were associated with the prevalence of diphtheria and infectious sore throat amongst the scholars attending Knowle Schools, and it was considered advisable on this account to close these schools in April. Subsequently serious defects were discovered in the drainage of the schools, and in the autumn the premises were re-drained. It is satisfactory to note that since this has been carried out there has been no return either of Diphtheria or infectious sore throat amongst the children of that part of the district; and this fact points to the possibility of the defective drainage having been the predisposing cause of these illnesses."

519. No deaths from Typhoid Fever occurred during the year.

520. One hundred and sixteen cases of infectious disease were notified, comparing with 144 in 1908 and 127 in 1907. The cases consisted of the following:—Scarlet Fever, 56; Diphtheria, 41; Typhoid Fever 7; and Erysipelas, 12.
521. The Diphtheria cases occurred chiefly at Knowle and Olton.
522. Of the seven cases of Typhoid Fever, 5 were notified from the Workhouse Infirmary and 4 of the cases were admitted affected, from the parish of Yardley in Worcestershire.
523. Appended to the Report is one from the Surveyor, which deals with the scavenging, maintenance of sewers, building plans, etc.
524. The Sanitary Inspector's Report is also appended and this shows that the routine work of Inspection of Slaughter-houses, Factories and Workshops, and Canal Boats, etc., was properly carried out.

SOUTHAM.

525. DR. TANGYE considers the population to have increased by 30.
526. The Birth-rate of 21·9 is the lowest recorded for the past 11 years. In 1908 it was comparatively high, namely 29·0.
527. The Death-rate is satisfactory and only slightly above the lowest recorded for the past eleven years. It is considerably lower than the last few years.
528. The rate of Infant mortality has increased considerably, and was at the rate of 114 per 1,000 births. DR. TANGYE says that this undoubtedly arises chiefly from ignorance of the parents as to the proper feeding and treatment of their children, coupled in many cases with poverty.
529. The causes of death of infants were mainly of a preventible nature, 6 being due to Diarrhoea, 4 to Whooping Cough, 3 to Bronchitis, 3 to Premature Birth, and the rest to various diseases, some of which—such as Marasmus or “wasting disease,”—have their origin in improper treatment.
530. Referring to causes of death at all ages, he states that 2 were due to Diphtheria, 1 at Napton and 1 at Upton. 5 to Whooping Cough and 6 to Diarrhoea, giving the somewhat high Zymotic rate of 1·69 per 1,000 of the population.
531. The total number of cases of infectious disease notified under the Act was 27. A number much lower than in the three preceding years. These cases consisted of:—Diphtheria, 9; Scarlet Fever, 7; Typhoid Fever, 2; and Erysipelas, 9.
532. The two cases of Enteric Fever occurred respectively at Gaydon and Long Itchington. In the former case the disease probably originated in a contaminated water supply.
533. Seven notifications of Consumption in poor persons were received from the Poor Law Medical Officers. Where the patient continued to live at home he was visited and advice given on such points as disposal of sputum and on the desirability of sleeping alone with bedroom window open.
534. The prevalence of Whooping Cough caused the closure of Napton Girls' and Infants' School in January, and Measles the closing of Priors Marston school in July.
535. The Report of the Sanitary Inspector which is appended shows that new drains were laid in the parishes of Gaydon, Harbury and Southam, and the main drains in Burton Dassett.

Harbury, Long Itchington, Napton, Southam and Ufton, have been repaired and cleansed, and in some cases trapped road gulleys fixed in place of open cesspools. The sewage outfalls at Southam and Stockton have had constant attention.

536. Eight samples of water were condemned as unfit for drinking purposes.

537. The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops are reported as generally kept in a very satisfactory condition.

WARWICK.

538. Dr. TANGYE reports a Birth-rate slightly above the average for the preceding ten years, namely 21·2.

539. The Death-rate of 12·7 is well below the average for the previous ten years.

540. The infant mortality was also satisfactory, namely 68 per 1,000 registered births.

541. As regards causes of death, 2 were due to Whooping Cough at Bishops Tachbrook; 1 to Diarrhoea at Sherbourne, and 1 to Typhoid Fever at Whitnash. This gives a Zymotic death-rate of 0·34 per 1000, a figure practically identical with that of last year.

542. Among other causes of death, 3 were due to Consumption, and 12 to Cancer.

543. Sixty-one cases of infectious disease were notified under the Act, namely:—Diphtheria, 15; Scarlet Fever, 37; Enteric, 1; and Erysipelas, 8.

544. The cases of Diphtheria were distributed as follows:—9 at Budbrooke Barracks, 3 at Stoneleigh, and 1 each at Barford, Cubbington and Haseley. Thirteen of the cases were removed to Hospital.

545. The Scarlet Fever cases were well distributed over the District and 30 of the 37 were removed to Heathcote Hospital.

546. The Report of the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor deals with the number of nuisances dealt with, and states that complaints were made by the Leamington Corporation as to the state of the Whitnash ditch and says that no complaints arising from the various rivers in the district have been received during the year.

547. Referring to Cowsheds, the Inspector says:—"Many of the sheds are small and badly planned, but in all cases the cows are turned out for several hours in the day, and are not kept closely confined."

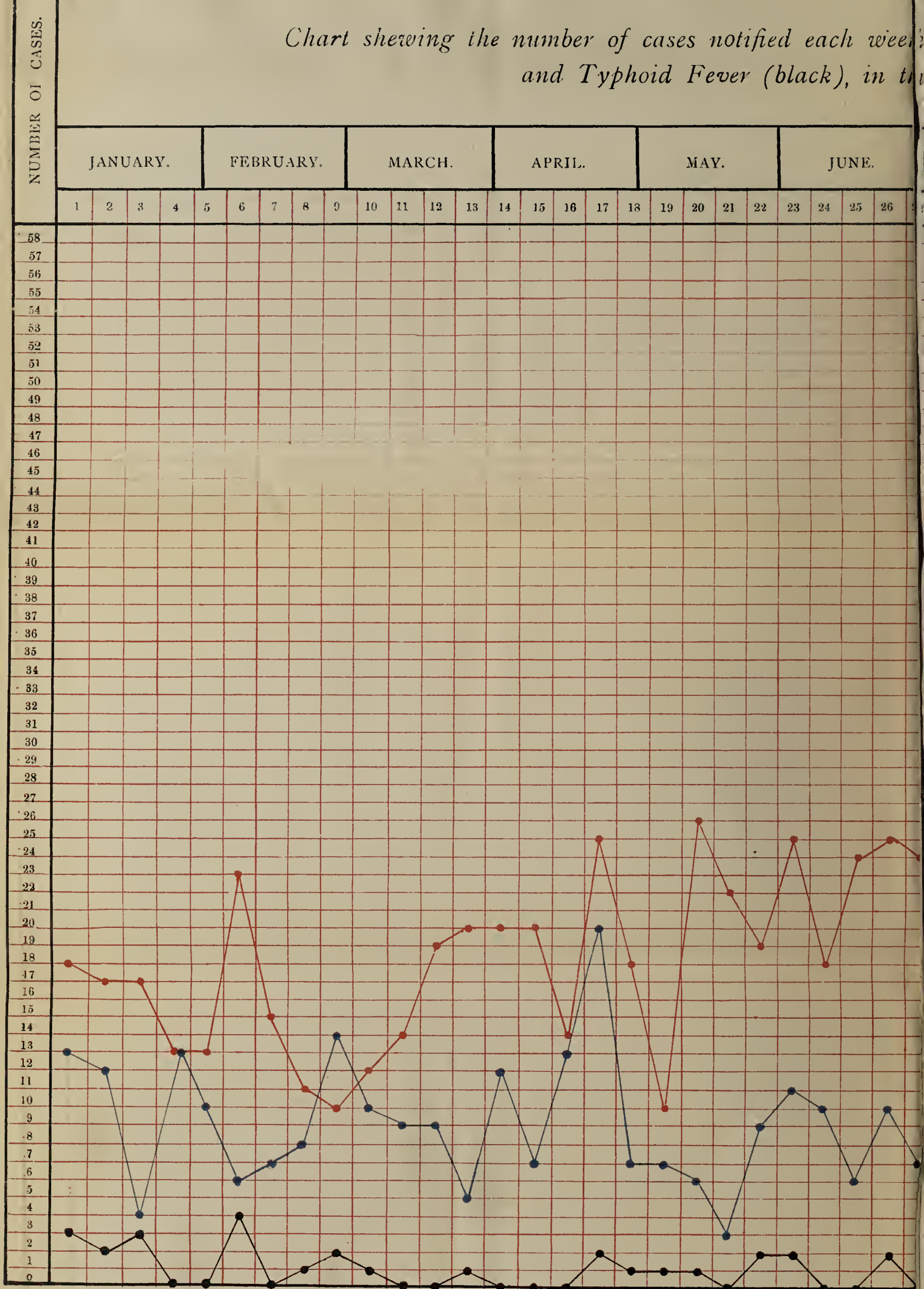
548. Plans for the erection of 24 new dwelling-houses, and 9 extensions to present buildings have been submitted and passed during the year.

549. The sewers have been partly relaid, repaired, flushed, and gulleys fixed in place of open catch-pits at Cubbington, New Cubbington, Barford, Leek and Hill Wootton, Whitnash, Offchurch, Hampton-on-the-Hill, Bubbenhall, Radford and Wasperton.

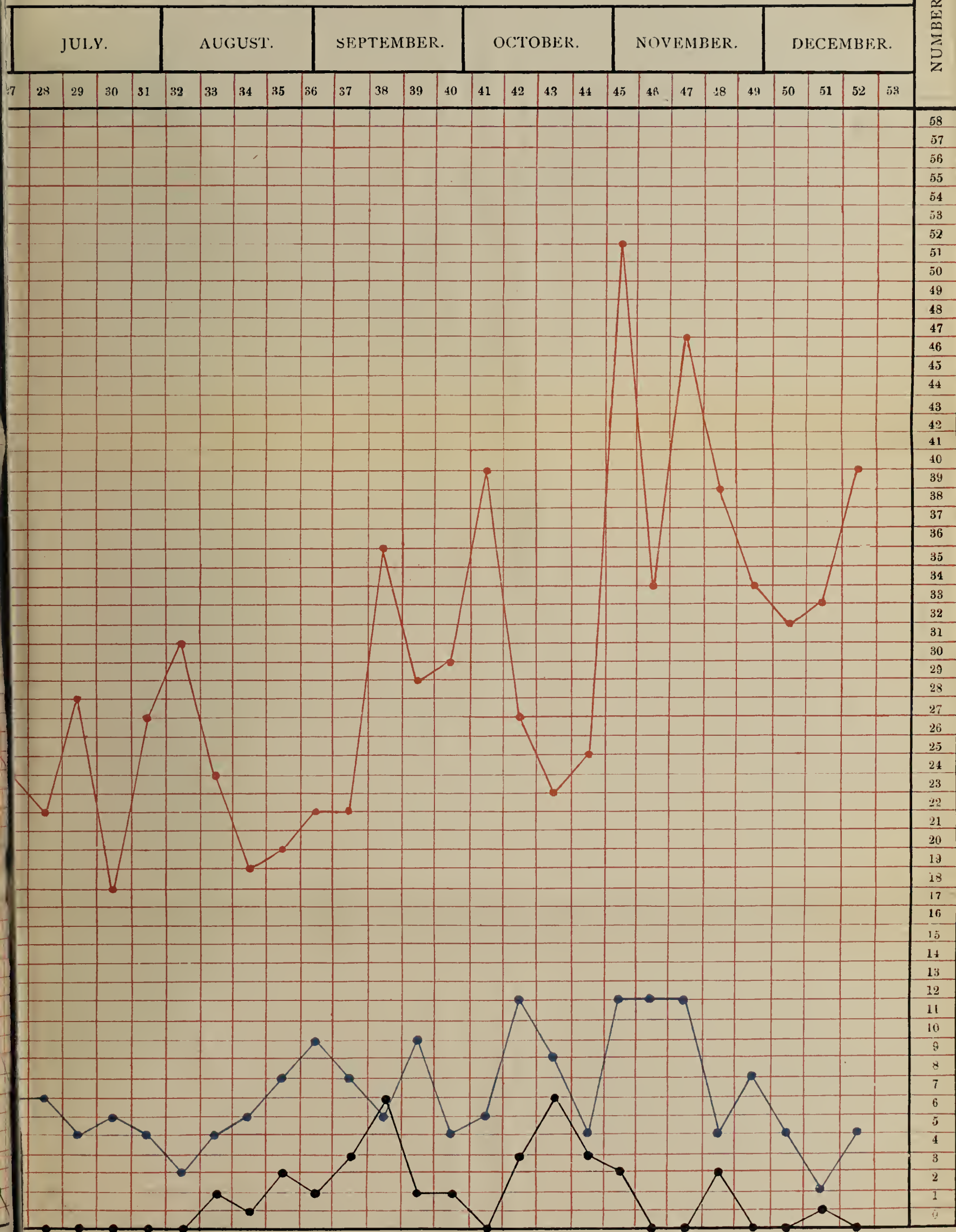
VITAL STATISTICS.

	Population.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
Meriden	12,110	22·4	13·0	0·66	52
Rugby	16,910	23·4	13·9	0·59	89
Solihull	17,260	20·1	13·1	0·81	75
Southam	10,010	21·9	14·4	1·69	111
Warwick	11,890	21·2	11·5	0·34	68

Chart shewing the number of cases notified each week
and Typhoid Fever (black), in the



of the year of Scarlet Fever (red), Diphtheria (blue),
 the Administrative County in 1909.



A. TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1909, in the URBAN SANITARY DISTRICTS of the COUNTY OF WARWICK, classified according to Diseases and Ages, and shewing also the Area and Population of such Districts, and the Births therein during the Year, together with Birth, Death, and Zymotic Rates, and the Rate of Infant Mortality.

DISTRICTS.	AREA IN ACRES.	Population per Square Mile.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Infant Mortality under 1 year to Registered Births per 1,000.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	DEATHS AT SUBJOINED AGES						MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES																																		
							Census 1901.	Estimated to middle of 1909		All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric.	Fever.		Epidemic Influenza.	Cholera.	Plague.	Diarrhoea.	Enteritis.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Other Septic Diseases.	Phthisis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Cancer, Malignant Disease.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Pleurisy.	Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	Alcoholism. { Cirrhosis of Liver.	Venereal Diseases.	Premature Birth.	Diseases and Accidents of Parturition.	Heart Diseases.	Accident.	Suicides.	Diseases of Female Organs.	All other Causes.	All Causes.
ASTON MANOR	943	53,920	25·6	14·9	1·8	120	77,316	79,448	2,039	1188	261	163	55	45	408	256	..	78	10	12	10	..	5	..	8	..	14	41	3	1	..	96	13	64	98	136	4	..	7	..	50	9	31	33	9	..	456	1188		
BULKINGTON	4,870	218	31·2	21·0	0·6	173	1,548	1,665	52	35	9	1	1	7	17	1	..	1	1	5	5	4	..	2	16	32				
ERDINGTON.. ..	4,550	4,180	27·03	10·46	0·63	95	16,366	29,720	804	312	52	23	16	11	114	96	..	5	3	3	6	..	1	..	2	..	1	2	1	..	19	8	24	19	24	2	3	2	..	16	..	47	9	2	..	113	312			
KENILWORTH	6,460	512	23·2	15·9	0·39	84	4,544	5,170	120	82	10	1	3	2	21	45	..	1	1	..	4	5	2	4	3	3	2	..	4	..	9	6	38	82			
ROYAL LEAMING- TON SPA}	2,760	6,319	15·8	14·1	0·40	101	26,888	27,252	432	386	43	12	7	13	127	184	7	2	1	5	..	3	1	..	3	1	..	20	9	39	30	21	..	5	6	..	5	1	50	7	3	..	168	384		
NUNEATON	10,597	2,176	31·2	10·4	1·1	91	24,995	36,011	1,135	378	104	43	19	25	100	87	..	20	..	5	3	..	2	..	4	..	8	10	3	..	21	24	24	20	10	1	12	7	1	18	3	41	7	134	378			
RUGBY	2,190	6,627	17·9	9·7	0·35	57	16,830	22,680	406	220	23	21	11	7	74	84	..	1	..	2	4	1	3	..	1	1	1	..	13	4	14	19	15	..	3	3	..	5	2	26	6	2	..	94	220			
STRATFORD-ON-AVON	3,865	1,376	19·8	11·7	<i>nil</i>	66	8,310	8,310	165	98	11	4	4	3	28	48	6	4	10	11	4	..	1	1	..	1	1	13	2	44	98			
SUTTON COLDFIELD	13,030	1,047	17·06	9·61	0·65	101	14,264	21,325	364	505	37	18	13	4	70	63	..	4	3	2	8	..	5	3	2	..	14	10	20	15	12	..	2	3	2	10	..	22	2	3	..	63	205			
WARWICK	5,512	1,443	21·9	14·6	0·48	59	11,889	12,430	272	182	16	7	2	4	67	86	..	1	1	2	1	4	..	1	1	1	..	14	5	14	8	10	2	5	1	..	7	..	24	1	4	..	74	182			
TOTALS ..	54,777	2,851	23·7	12·6	0·93	97	202,950	244,041	5,789	3086	566	293	130	115	1016	966	..	110	17	33	26	1	..	9	139	..	34	58	9	8	..	209	79	213	228	240	9	31	32	3126	16	265	73	23	..	1200	3084			

D. TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officers of Health during the year 1909, in the URBAN SANITARY DISTRICTS of the COUNTY OF WARWICK,
classified according to DISEASES, AGES AND LOCALITIES.

DISTRICTS.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	CASES NOTIFIED AT SUBJUGINED AGES.						NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH										NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITALS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	Census 1901.	Estimated to middle of 1909.		At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Chicken Pox.	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Plague.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
ASTON MANOR ..	77,316	79,448	2,039	600	6	123	327	66	72	6	64	..	72	425	..	32	..	1	6	340

E. TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officers of Health during the year 1909, in the RURAL SANITARY DISTRICTS of the COUNTY OF WARWICK, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

DISTRICTS.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	CASES NOTIFIED AT SUBJOINED AGES.						NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH										NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITALS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
	Census 1901.	Estimated to middle of 1909.		At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 3.	5 to 13.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Chicken Pox.	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Plague.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
ALCESTER ..	11,392	11,400	252	65	..	8	40	8	7	2	4	..	5	56	53

F. TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officers of Health during the year 1909, in the COUNTY OF WARWICK, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

DISTRICTS.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	CASES NOTIFIED AT SPECIFIED AGES.						NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH										NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITALS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
	Census 1901.	Estimated to middle of 1909.		At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Chicken Pox.	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Plague.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
URBAN SANITARY DISTRICTS	202,950	244,041	5,789	1,356	8	284	671	150	216	27	1	..	289	..	169	806	..	77	..	1	13	..	1	..	56	..	1	567	..	17

I. RETURN, shewing the number of Births Registered, together with the number of such cases successfully Vaccinated or otherwise disposed of in the Districts of the COUNTY OF WARWICK during the year ending 30th June, 1909.

VACCINATION DISTRICTS.	No. of Births Registered during the year ending 30th June, 1909.	No. of these cases successfully Vaccinated.	Insusceptible of Vaccination.	Died before Vaccination.	Cases under Postponement.	Removals to other Districts out of the Union.	No. of cases not to be found.	Number of cases remaining Unvaccinated at date of this Return.	No. of Conscientious Certificates.
URBAN DISTRICTS.									
Aston Manor... ..	2,107	1,421	16	185	68	11	273	76	57
Bulkington	55	15	...	5	...	...	2	...	33
Erdington	806	642	7	53	16	17	19	9	43
Kenilworth	95	67	...	8	...	1	4	2	13
Royal Leamington Spa	402	259	1	18	2	3	8	10	101
Nuneaton	1,143	315	...	69	12	...	54	3	690
Rugby	469	161	...	27	5	4	3	13	256
Stratford-on-Avon ...	217	128	...	20	8	2	4	8	47
Sutton Coldfield ...	357	263	2	24	7	4	4	...	53
Warwick	265	202	...	14	1	...	5	...	13
RURAL DISTRICTS.									
Aleicester	254	177	...	14	2	...	...	...	61
Atherstone	593	252	...	53	49	1	12	19	207
Brailes	115	74	...	8	1	...	...	...	32
Castle Bromwich ...	67	47	1	5	1	...	2	1	10
Coventry	8	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Farnborough... ..	24	8	...	3	1	...	...	...	12
Foleshill	723	311	...	66	4	...	13	1	328
Meriden	274	220	...	14	2	2	7	4	25
Monks Kirby	29	18	...	...	...	2	...	...	9
Nuneaton	69	42	...	10	...	1	2	3	11
Rugby	451	100	1	11	2	2	1	3	331
Solihull	361	310	2	24	1	2	...	2	20
Southam	243	129	...	11	1	1	...	...	101
Stratford-on-Avon ...	240	126	...	3	2	4	5	66	40
Tamworth	486	360	...	42	18	2	5	12	47
Warwick	168	22	...	6	2	...	1	5	32
TOTALS	10,021	5,776	30	693	205	59	424	231	2,603

	Miss Lowe.	Miss Freeberne.	Miss Morrison.	Mrs. Lord	Mrs. McCore.	Miss Chorlton.	Miss Hunter.	Total.
Total number of visits made	1,322	1,060	1,127	942	676	1,164	96	6,687
" " " to infants	228	259	260	128	191	255	..	1,321
" " " to Midwives	117	115	68	54	73	93	..	520
" " " to School Children	725	457	530	583	385	729	64	3,473
Total Number of Other Visits	254	229	269	177	164	95	..	1,188
Number of Health Talks given	11	..	..	1	..	2	..	14
Lectures to Midwives	5	..	..	..	..	6	..	11
ANALYSIS OF VISITS.								
INFANTS.								
<i>Modes of Feeding.</i>								
1st or 2nd Visit	229	236	188	128	179	255	..	1,215
Breast	118	115	128	59	95	140	..	655
Partly	8	60	18	29	13	16	..	144
Artificial	47	61	40	40	56	70	..	314
<i>Condition.</i>								
Wasting	5	6	7	4	14	15	..	51
Improperly Fed	8	34	16	17	28	26	..	129
Badly Clothed	6	5	4	..	8	4	..	27
Neglected	6	9	5	1	6	3	..	30
To be Weaned or Vaccinated	5	14	3	7	21	8	..	58
Cots	94	22	2	35	45	21	..	219
<i>School Children.</i>								
Number of Visits	723	457	466	583	385	731	95	3,440
Number of Children Visited	794	404	433	313	263	616	64	2,887
Heads Ulcerated and Verminous	129	241	144	48	93	156	11	822
Neglected	64	61	60	58	25	28	..	296
Clothing	37	18	39	8	9	28	..	139
Other Diseases	356	259	339	223	298	522	53	2,050
<i>Housing Defects.</i>								
Dirty Beds	34	86	24	9	13	90	..	256
Dirty Rooms	34	108	62	45	31	109	..	389
Dirty Closets	17	7	2	2	10	13	..	51
Stopped-up Drains	3	5	4	..	3	19	..	34
Windows to be opened .. ..	..	30	32	4	7	88	..	161
Pantries Unventilated	1	5	5	9	14	23	..	57
Damp Houses	5	10	15	..	4	25	..	59
Overcrowding	11	4	2	3	8	40	..	68
MIDWIVES.								
<i>Register.</i>								
Number of Inspections	97	69	55	54	35	89	2	401
Satisfactory	61	53	48	51	27	51	1	292
Unsatisfactory	2	9	6	3	1	39	..	60
<i>Baq.</i>								
Satisfactory	59	56	40	38	24	66	2	285
Unsatisfactory	7	5	8	1	4	23	..	48
<i>Appliances.</i>								
Satisfactory	59	21	66	35	26	60	2	269
Unsatisfactory	9	..	4	2	4	31	..	50
Cleanliness of Midwife	69	25	47	37	28	67	2	275
Cleanliness of House	70	26	33	38	28	67	2	264

K. METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken at the Park Lodge and Council House, Sutton Coldfield, during the Year ending 31st December, 1908, by the Park Forester (Mr. H. HARLOND).

Lat. : 52 deg. 33 mi. 22 sec., N. Long. : 1 deg. 49 mi. 42 sec., W.
 Height of Rain Gauge above Sea Level, 370·5 feet.

MONTH.	RAINFALL.			BAROMETER.				THERMOMETERS.								SUNSHINE.		MONTH.	
	Total Depth in inches.	Number of days on which Rain fell.	Depth.	Highest Corrected Readings.		Lowest Corrected Readings.		IN SHADE.				Highest Readings in Sun.		Lowest Readings on Grass.		Hours.	Mins.		
				Inches.	Date.	Inches.	Date.	Highest Readings.	Degrees.	Date.	Lowest Readings.	Degrees.	Date.	Degrees.	Date.				
January ..	1·09	8	·32	30·442	5th	29·360	15th	49·3	19th	17·0	27th	35·6	69·5	11th	14·2	27th	43	54	January
February..	0·68	8	·34	30·467	22nd	29·415	10th	55·3	5th	16·5	23rd	35·4	87·3	23rd	13·2	23rd	67	29	February
March	3·14	21	·97	29·967	12th	29·220	25th	57·0	30th	4·0	5th	38·2	105·4	28th	2·5	5th	48	35	March
April	1·77	14	·31	30·373	3rd	29·630	24th	68·3	10th	24·3	1st	46·4	118·8	24th	22·6	1st	200	3	April
May	1·49	11	·67	30·447	4th	29·741	26th	79·6	22nd	27·2	19th	50·2	129·5	22nd	22·8	3rd	238	27	May
June	3·91	15	1·39	30·378	18th	29·413	24th	70·5	1st	35·0	13th	53·5	120·9	14th	30·7	13th	116	31	June
July	3·44	18	1·11	30·332	19th	29·698	7th	74·3	18th	38·3	2nd	59·8	134·0	18th	31·6	2nd	180	34	July
August	2·32	13	·77	30·367	11th	29·492	18th	86·0	13th	40·2	3rd	61·5	132·0	8th	33·7	3rd	180	21	August
September.	2·32	20	·56	30·312	15th	29·667	7th	67·8	20th	35·0	2nd	53·1	119·4	7th	30·6	2nd	75	57	September
October ...	3·55	25	·44	30·292	9th	29·330	5th	62·8	5th	22·5	31st	49·1	97·3	3rd	20·0	31st	88	15	October
November.	0·92	14	·28	30·402	8th	29·312	30th	53·7	6th	23·5	9th	38·5	85·0	8th	19·8	16th	58	58	November
December .	4·20	23	·65	30·444	14th	28·660	3rd	51·6	28th	10·5	22nd	36·5	72·0	27th	5·8	22nd	35	59	December
TOTALS	28·83	190						MEAN FOR THE YEAR				46·5	TOTAL		1335	3			

W. A. H. CLARRY, Borough Surveyor.

L. METEOROLOGY TABLE OF LEAMINGTON, 1909.

Month.	Means of Barom. at 10 a.m.	Means of Ther. at 10 a.m.	AIR TEMPERATURES.						Direction of the Prevailing Wind.	RAINFALL.	
			Means of		Absolute Temperatures.			Inches.		Days.	
			Max.	Min.	Max.	Date.	Min.				Date.
January ...	29.01	41	41.54	36.25	49	10th, 11th.	26	26th.	E.	.77	13
February ...	29.96	40	39.17	33.21	53	4th.	26	23rd, 24th.	S.E.	.76	9
March ...	29.32	39	44.22	35.22	54	21st, 31st.	18	5th.	S.	2.45	15
April ...	29.86	50	59.46	41.60	69	10th.	35	2nd, 3rd.	W.	1.56	14
May ...	29.67	53	65.64	46.48	84	22nd.	36	1st.	W. and N.E.	1.08	10
June ...	29.84	55	67.60	50.73	78	1st, 30th.	43	13th	N.	2.87	15
July ...	29.83	60	69.67	54.48	78	3rd.	48	1st, 3rd.	W.	2.88	14
August ...	29.87	62	73.06	59.80	85	13th	47	28th.	W.	2.23	11
September ...	29.91	55	59.63	50.56	67	7th.	41	2nd, 3rd.	N.E.	2.42	19
October ...	29.31	53	56.66	47.32	68	9th.	31	31st.	W.	4.48	28
November ...	29.88	43	45.33	35.80	56	6th.	26	20th, 23rd.	W.	.63	15
December ...	29.17	42	43.06	34.61	55	28th.	24	21st.	W.	3.19	25
TOTALS ...	355.63	593	665.04	526.06	796	...	401	...	...	25.32	188
MEANS ...	29.63	49	55.42	43.83	66	...	33	...	...	2.11	15

1910.

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH,

For the Year 1909.

R. SPENNEL, PRINTER, WARWICK.